

RAILWAY AND COMMERCIAL GAZETTE:

No. 1034—VOL. XXV.]

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NICHOLLS, WILLIAMS, and Co., have a QUANTITY of SECOND-HAND MINE MATERIALS FOR SALE.

will make the bill somewhat likely to answer the important objects it properly has in view.

There is one particular matter connected with the proceedings of the masters on the present occasion—namely, they waited upon Sir G. Grey, on Friday, the 11th inst., but their visit to the Home Secretary did not appear in the daily press. They had a second interview at the Home Office, on Monday, the 14th inst., at which it was publicly stated that the miners' deputation had been received by Sir G. Grey, early in the afternoon of Saturday, the 13th inst. It is not clear from the *Globe* of that day, why this visit was not made public. It is not clear from the *Globe* of that day, why this visit was not made public. It is not clear from the *Globe* of that day, why this visit was not made public.

Whatever the cause or reason therefor, it is manifest that there is something dark and mysterious about the affair.

There are some other matters in connection with the employers' proceedings which require a notice. They allege that some of the inspectors, if they had any power to approve or disapprove of the rules, that private pique or prejudice might sway their judgment; and thus the particular owner might suffer by having the rules at his disposal made more stringent than they need be. And in corroboration of this, a certain inspector, or perhaps two, are stated to be parties who were likely to be in such a spirit. Now, there is nothing like English justice; and it will be the duty of the Government to allow these inspectors, so charged (or the inspector, if only one has been named), to defend themselves. It is well enough for an English or Welsh coalmaster to state that he feels annoyed at the conduct of the inspector of his district; but when he goes so far as to offer that as a reason why a clause in an Act should be amended, Parliament should be satisfied that the clause is not necessary, and that the assertion of such coalmasters should be properly attested; and, in consequence, the coal miners, the deputation intend to memorialise the Home Secretary on that subject.

The bill is now undergoing re-construction, and will necessarily not be committed for a week or two; therefore, it will be the duty, as well as the interest, of all persons working in coal mines to assist the deputation to obtain a measure likely to diminish the fearful sacrifice of life now going on.

Turning to the following address, what information they can give, and what cash they can spare, we are, Sir, yours respectfully,

D. SWALLOW, A. TETLOW, Lancashire and Cheshire, } Miners'
M. JUDS, Ed. GRAY, Northumberland and Durham, } Deputation.

ACCIDENTS IN MINES.—WHAT IS DONE TO PREVENT THEM?

Sir.—In the *Mining Journal* of May 26, and in the *Cambridge* of June 8, is the following paragraph, or words to that effect:—"The Abernethy Coal Works, owned by Mr. Crowther Bailey, M.P., has again been the scene of a fatal explosion of fire-damp. This time it is known to accumulate in the mine (mark you that, Mr. Editor), but Thomas Samuel went in with the top of his lantern open, and an explosion took place, by which the unfortunate man was killed." &c.

Mr. Bailey has acquired his enormous wealth by the labour, and by the sweat and blood of his colliers and miners, and yet neither he himself nor his agent appear to possess intelligence sufficient to supply the men with locked lamps.

Who is to blame, Mr. Editor? They talk of the recklessness of miners, but why do you not blame the master? They talk of the recklessness of miners, but why do you not blame the master? They talk of the recklessness of miners, but why do you not blame the master?

LAKE SUPERIOR, AND ITS COPPER REGIONS.

Sir.—Having been for several years engaged in making explorations of the mining regions of Lake Superior, it was not without great surprise that I perused the letter of Mr. John A. Callender, in your valuable *Journal* of April 14. To those who are really familiar with the country bordering on the north shore of this vast inland water, embracing a coast of more than a thousand miles, it is painful to see the subject treated so flippantly. I trust, therefore, you will permit me, through the medium of your *Journal*, to offer such observations on the tendency of Mr. Callender's letter as will serve to dispel the very erroneous ideas which it is calculated to produce in a country so distant from the field of observation as England: in Canada itself it can elicit nothing but contempt.

Before noticing specially Mr. Callender's sketch of his Lake Superior tour, I would promise that, owing to the fact that the United States Government took the lead in making scientific explorations to be made in the Lake Superior country, the south or American shores of that inland sea became the first seat of mining enterprise. Those scientific researches, conducted by Dr. Houghton on the part of the State of Michigan, date as far back as 1836, and were the cause of the Americans entering with vigour, and with great advantages, into this business. Their success and astonishing developments, gradually becoming known to the public, first awoke the Canadian Government to some of the value of the immense mineral country on the north or Canadian shore of the lake. Thus, the Americans had established numerous mining enterprises, and overcome many difficulties, at a time when the Canadian explorers first broke in on the great solitude of the Hudson's Bay trappers. It is not to be wondered at that a great success should have attended American enterprise, guided, as it were, by the light thrown on the subject by so eminent a man as Dr. Houghton for more than ten years before any operations were undertaken. Having thus explained the cause of the greatly advanced state of the American mining region over that of Canada, let us examine Mr. Callender's impressions.

Mr. Callender says—"I commenced my explorations last summer with the north or Canadian shore of Lake Superior. It was impossible, of course, thoroughly to embrace several hundred miles of coast in one season; nevertheless, I extended my observations along the coast to the boundary-line of the Canadian territory, penetrating into the interior at the different points which appeared to me most favourable for the production of minerals. Without entering into the details of that shore, which would exceed the limits of this letter, I will only say that my expectations, founded on the reports of former explorations, were considerably disappointed, and I was astonished to find that the mineral wealth at surface was far from promising, or sufficient to justify the enormous outlay which must have been expended."

Such is the very modest way in which Mr. Callender dismisses some 500 or 600 miles of the most interesting mineral region of America—a region which Mr. Logan, the provincial geologist (a man of the highest scientific acquirements, and who is rapidly gaining a European reputation), and Mr. Hall, Geologist of the State of New York, a gentleman of equal celebrity, have stated, in their evidence before a committee of the Legislature of the province, in October last, to be "a most important copper region." I need scarcely say that these gentlemen did not come to this conclusion without abundant and convincing evidence of the fact they announce. I might have more copious extracts from Mr. Logan's reports and evidence, illustrative of this position, were it requisite; it will be sufficient, however, to show the utter impossibility of Mr. Callender's being able to form any reliable opinion whatever on the subject, as based on his own personal observation.

Mr. Callender's trip covered a distance of 500 or 600 miles. This was performed in a bark canoe, or mackinaw boat. He started some time about the 27th of June; he had returned to the Saint St. Marie by the first week in August; his party consisted of four or five stout Canadian voyageurs. Miners he had none with him—and, indeed, of what use could any miner have been to the man who could not find his way to the other in five weeks, averaging a speed of about 20 miles per day? That little time for drilling holes, I trust; so Mr. Callender wisely dispensed with that indispensable adjunct of the exploring party, and of the drill, and hammers, and tools, and fuses, and other nasty things, which load your boat, and impede your progress, and which that useful labourer would have insisted on bringing with him; and so, in "light marching order," did Mr. Callender get over the ground. Now, it is remembered, the coast of Lake Superior is wild, rocky, and in places iron-bound; it abounds in deep bays, long promontories; its waters are studded with islands, many of them of great size, even 20 miles in length; the instant you leave the shore you encounter a forest so dense, so encumbered with underbrush, with mosses, and a mass of vegetation in all stages of growth and decay, standing and fallen, overhanging obstruction to the very researches the explorer has in view. Is it not an exploration, and, moreover, to present such an excursion as Mr. Callender made in the light of a geological expedition, in the highest degree to hazard an opinion on it? Inevitably, in spite of all the difficulties—the brush, the swamps, the fallen timber, the overhanging underwood—Mr. Callender "penetrated into the interior," and "at last, in light marching order, without involving the aid of the 'flying Dutchman,' he reached the interior."

I have, however, heard of explorers on Lake Superior, who, by the aid of powerful telescopes, can settle the mineral character of a country at many miles distance, and, moreover, can see the forest through, and so has Mr. Callender. Nothing is more perfectly untrue than the statement that Mr. Callender was so deceived as to believe that he had penetrated into the interior, and that he had reached the interior. I do not doubt that he had pursued his investigations in the most judicious manner, and that he had been successful in his quest of knowledge. I do not doubt that he had pursued his investigations in the most judicious manner, and that he had been successful in his quest of knowledge.

On the third day of his departure from the Saint St. Marie Mr. Callender had reached Cape Gargantua, a distance of 90 miles. He will remember it the better when he reads that he had reached Cape Gargantua, a distance of 90 miles. He will remember it the better when he reads that he had reached Cape Gargantua, a distance of 90 miles. He will remember it the better when he reads that he had reached Cape Gargantua, a distance of 90 miles.

But when he tells us that he found the ruins of extensive works, involving vast outlay, that he had been more precise, and informed us how many of these discoveries were made, he has a right to expect—more than the curious reader, thirsting for information, might induce a belief that they were of frequent occurrence; whereas, in fact, only four operations have ever been undertaken on the north shore of the lake. Of these, one is still favourably progressing, and the others are by no means so successful. Indeed, it was the opinion of a practical gentleman from that one of these abandoned mines was of great value. Would it not have been more to the fact—that these mines had been continued in consequence of the limited capital in the province available for mining adventure? In the instance which Mr. Callender refers to, where a large sum had been sunk, much of the failure is to be attributed to the folly and extravagance of an agent, who sought to control the action of a really prudent and able man; and when Mr. Callender states that operations were commenced in very poor indications, he speaks of what he has no knowledge of, and he states what is not the fact. Not only were the indications most excellent, but the whole country throughout is indicative of mineral wealth to a most remarkable extent, and such as few places in the world can show. The indications cannot run away; they are there, and can be seen for themselves.

Mr. Callender says, I believe, aware that during his voyage up the lake, an expedition of the Montreal Mining Company, consisting of several Cornish miners, had very important discoveries of native copper and grey ore at Mamamé, accompanied by very remarkable evidences of having been anciently worked, in the stone of the south-west. "Indice" diggings, were found there; being, in fact, what are called the richest mines; so all experience on the south shore proves. Why did Mr. Callender not go to Mamamé to have been aware, and to have stated, that the Montreal Company in one year shipped from the Bruce Mine 1000 tons of ore to Swansea; that the

Wellington Mine, immediately adjoining, is viewed with perfect confidence by the parties engaged in it, practical men, and personally conducting the superintendence. These mines, it is true, are on Lake Huron, but the country is geologically identical with the Upper Lake. Mr. Callender might have inquired, and he used ordinary diligence, that during the time he was making his agreeable journey up and down the lake, many of those Americans who have acquired their knowledge and experience on the south shore, were engaged in explorations on the Canada side, and no less than 27 applications for permission to occupy mining grounds in that very region, which Mr. Callender would lead us to believe is quite worthless, were that summer made to our Government. Before venturing to differ in opinion with men who have spent their lives in mining enterprise in various parts of the world, in Spain, Cuba, Cornwall, as also Lake Superior, he should have inquired into the indications which were the harbingers of success on the south shore; he would then have learnt that those of the north shore of Lake Superior were of the extraordinary results that have since followed. The north shore has great regions of the grey and amygdaloidal traps, precisely similar to those of the south, in which the great native copper lodes are worked; I have myself taken out 55 lbs. of pure copper in two masses on the surface, on the Canada side, and do not doubt, had Mr. Callender exercised similar diligence, and his eye been a little more sharpened by the practice of exploring, similar success might have attended his efforts.

Whilst differing widely with Mr. Callender in his estimate of the mineral resources of the north shore of the great lake, I can cordially join him in enlarging the harbingers of success on the south shore, and am surprised that whilst he remembers to record the excellent cheer he found at friend Van Anden's, at the Ontonagon, he omitted the tribute of praise due to Mr. Pym, the landowner on the Canada side of the Saint St. Marie, whose creature comforts, plentifully supplied, whose quiet house and unvarying desire to please, must, I am sure, have made a pleasing impression on Mr. Callender during his stay there of ten days as they did on—

Hamilton, Canada West, May 14. —WHARTON METCALVE.

THE LOUISE MINING COMPANY.

Sir.—I shall feel greatly obliged if you would publish the following statement in your next *Journal*, and I trust that the English shareholders of this Prussian "rig" will awake, at least partially, to a sense of the irregular way in which matters are carried on at the mine. Last year a "subscription" was commenced amongst the shareholders for the purpose of raising \$8000, which, when raised, was to have been applied in payment of the debts of the mine (amounting to \$8000), and the remaining \$2000 in the purchase and erection of a small steam-engine, in order to work the mine to a greater depth: \$2000 was raised by this subscription, out of which the debts, \$8000, have been paid, and \$1000, is, or rather is expected to be, in hand. The most ordinary business course would have been, when the subscription had failed, to have paid interest on the debt (say) at 5 per cent., and to have applied \$2000 to the erection of the engine, leaving the debts to have been paid out of the first profits. It is stated that a 24-in. cylinder engine would work the water to a depth of 40 or 50 fathoms, and that Mr. John Hitehins has reported the lode at Dorothea and Louise to be one of "unusual promise." The questions, however, arise here—What has become of the \$2000, paid-up by the shareholders? The company has not been three years in existence. What is the size of the set? Why has not the mine been sunk to a greater depth than its present depth of 14 or 15 fms.? Why, with 10,000 shares in reserve, do the directors beg from the shareholders the grant of only \$3000, 1—and, more than all, why has the \$2000, actually raised been wrongfully expended? I believe the mine is now raising about enough copper to pay the expenses, and no more. Let us have a committee of investigation appointed, that the rumour may be refuted of the Australian gold "rigs," sinking into the shade of "nothingness" before our magnificent Louise.—June 12. —A SHAREHOLDER.

THE LIBERTY MINING COMPANY.

Sir.—I beg, through the medium of your *Journal*, to call the attention of the shareholders of this company to the fact that at the last meeting the directors (Mr. Chas. Buris, jun., Mr. Mackenzie, &c.) never mentioned the existence of copper in this property. The Chairman appeared to think it useless to send to Virginia the nominee of Mr. Buris, because he was a copper miner, and it would be long before a copper miner understood gold mining in Virginia. The last report received from Mr. Crose states that the April ore (253 tons in quantity) had been recently sold, and had realised \$1460. The balance of the head is only \$146. I do not understand the mine is worked to gold mining, the fact that only one gold company (St. John del Rey) has its shares at a premium, while nearly every copper mine is paying enormous dividends, and the shares at equally large premiums, being apparently overlooked. Being a recent adventurer, I took no part in the proceedings, but left the room in disgust, at finding that whether in England or America mines are, and apparently must be, mismanaged. The accounts are, however, the worst specimen of mining accounts I have ever seen; indeed, the page and a half of the report devoted to them is perfectly unintelligible. The balance of the head is only \$146. I do not understand the mine is worked to gold mining, the fact that only one gold company (St. John del Rey) has its shares at a premium, while nearly every copper mine is paying enormous dividends, and the shares at equally large premiums, being apparently overlooked. Being a recent adventurer, I took no part in the proceedings, but left the room in disgust, at finding that whether in England or America mines are, and apparently must be, mismanaged. 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riety of strokes (and length of stroke) per minute, as may be seen by the printed particulars, a proof that the engines and steam power in some ships are not well suited to each other, that some engines are not doing what they might, or that the steam power was capable of driving more powerful engines.

If all condensing engines were to make as near as possible the same desired number of strokes per minute (the variation of their power being only in their size), each would perform its duties with the least possible degree of injury to the bearings by unnecessary friction, and fuel would not be wasted. When a variation took place the engine-driver would readily be able to discover the cause, and, possibly, rectify it.

When a vessel was in extreme danger, of two evils it might be desirable to force her engines and speed, if possible. By the use of Palmer's propeller the engines of any vessel may be made the most of, and the desired number of revolutions per minute obtained, the variation being only in the size of the propeller, and which should be in accordance with the actual working horse-power of the engine.

By a due regard to this simple but very important rule (friction) throughout all the parts and bearings of the steam-engine, you will readily perceive that the boiler power, the engines, and the propeller, are properly suited to each other, giving the greatest amount of safety, speed, or power, durability to the whole of the machine and care to the ship, in the smallest space, at the least expense, and with the smallest consumption of fuel.—Southampton, June 11.

EDWARD PALMER.

AIR V. STEAM—GOODLET'S INVENTION.

Sir.—I am frequently asked how the power is obtained to propel a vessel by my large and small double-acting air-engines. It must be acknowledged by practical steamboat engineers that the power of the atmospheric pressure, although attempted, has never yet been successfully applied as a moving power to a steamboat, and never can until the present system of condensation be abolished, and air brought to act in combination with steam, which can only be done by my patented atmospheric vacuum valves being attached to the cylinders of a steam-engine.

As an evidence that the force of steam is not the moving power of a steamboat, propelled by a condensing engine, there is a vacuum on the wrong side of the piston when the engine is working, and the slow steaming speed, compared to the sailing speed of a vessel with a favourable wind, affords another proof that the steam is not properly applied to the engine.

It will be seen from the various articles on "Air v. Steam," especially by the advertisement which appears in another column of this day's Journal, that the power of the atmospheric pressure is made to assist the power and speed of a vessel by my plan; and I would respectfully invite any person to challenge the soundness, should he think there is any fallacy in the principle, of my discovery, pretty fully explained in the advertisement alluded to.—Leith, June 14.

G. GOODLET, Postmaster.

VOLTAIC ELECTRICITY.—Dr. Tyndall has just concluded a course of lectures at the Royal Institution, on voltaic electricity. In reviewing the progress and present condition of the science, Dr. Tyndall brought before his audience the recent discoveries, and stated the opinions of the most distinguished electricians, so as to impart a knowledge of the subject from its first stages of development to the condition to which it has now arrived; pointing out at the same time an immeasurable field that still lies open for investigation. Though the discoveries in electric science during the present century, when thus passed in review, appear truly marvellous, they serve also to show that we remain in ignorance of the causes of most of the phenomena, and that electricity probably exerts far greater influences in the operations of nature than philosophers have yet been able to trace.

Dr. Tyndall did little more than briefly notice the applications of electric force to the purposes of moving machinery, of illumination, of working in metals, and of transmitting intelligence; but his observations and his illustrations of those branches of the subject were sufficient to show the capability of the extension of electric force far beyond the limits of its present appliances. So far, indeed, as the probable substitution of electricity as a moving power instead of steam, it was shown that the only obstacle is the cost of the means yet known of exciting the electric force, and when it is considered that the chemical actions during the combustion of a candle are sufficient to generate more of this force than the most powerful voltaic batteries, if those actions could only be developed in the form of a voltaic current, there seems good reason to suppose that the means of thus generating electricity will ere long be discovered, and that there will then be supplied an almost illimitable source of power, applicable in numerous other ways than in mechanical action. It is, perhaps, in this direction that we must look for the accomplishment of marvels during the remainder of the nineteenth century, equal to those that have been effected since its commencement. In the concluding lecture the electric light, and the heating power of the voltaic current, were more especially noticed, and numerous brilliant experiments were exhibited, showing the quantities of heat, and the intensity of the light, that may be derived from that source, and applied to practical uses, when some more economical means of generating voltaic electricity has been discovered.

Prof. Faraday explained, at the Royal Institution, the action of Ruhmkorff's apparatus, by which the effects of induced electricity are most strikingly exhibited. Mr. Ruhmkorff is a philosophical instrument maker at Paris, who has contrived, by the application of well-known principles, and by a new combination and enlargement of the induction coil, to produce from voltaic electricity some of the beautiful effects of the electricity excited by the most powerful machines; and thus to show most clearly the identity of the force excited by friction and by chemical action. The apparatus consists of a primary coil of copper wire, round which there is wound a large quantity of finer covered wire; and by sending a voltaic current through the first coil, electricity is induced in the second, though no portion of the voltaic current passes through it. This "secondary current," as it is called, possesses an intensity resembling that excited by the electrical machine. The induction of an intense current in a second wire was discovered 20 years ago by Prof. Faraday, who exhibited on the lecture table the original apparatus by means of which that effect was produced. The induced electricity perceived on making contact with the voltaic battery is of the opposite kind to that excited on breaking contact, and Prof. Faraday stated that the cause of there being no observable effect excepting at the moments of making and breaking contact, was that the two opposing currents being equal in force, they neutralised each other. By a mechanical arrangement, which those who are acquainted with a common medical coil apparatus will understand, the contact is made and broken automatically with immense rapidity, and by this means the two electricities of the secondary current are separately brought into action. Ruhmkorff's apparatus is indeed little more than a greatly enlarged medical coil machine. The flood of electricity developed by this apparatus was exhibited in many beautiful experiments. When a jar, coated inside with tin-foil, was placed within the exhausted receiver of an air-pump, and one end of the second wire was connected with the inside of the jar and the other end with the metal plate of the pump, there was a copious outpouring of purple light from the interior of the jar, accompanied by concentrated electric flashes, which varied in intensity as the strength of the voltaic battery was increased or diminished. Another remarkable exhibition of this condition of electric force was its passage in a succession of sparks between the ends of two wires. The sparks succeeded each other so rapidly as to be not separately distinguishable when the wires were stationary, but on moving them about each spark was distinctly visible; the optical effect, in consequence of the short duration of the electric spark, being the reverse of that when a continuous light is in motion. Various modifications of Ruhmkorff's coil have been made by Mr. Grove and others, to increase its intensity effects, and to make the kind of electricity evolved approach still more closely to that excited by friction. In one of the arrangements shown by Prof. Faraday, in which the secondary wire was connected with the interior of a Leyden jar, the positive and negative electricities of the secondary current were exhibited separately, and producing different effects; one being intensified by passing through the jar, and the other being in its ordinary condition. The sparks emitted by the intensified current were much more brilliant, and made a louder sound than the other, and the actions of the two currents were also different; for the former pierced holes through paper, whilst the latter set the paper on fire, and the ordinary current ignited gunpowder, which the other merely threw aside. Professor Faraday observed, in conclusion, that the extraordinary phenomena exhibited by Ruhmkorff's apparatus opened new fields for discovery, which, if he were a younger man, he should have eagerly investigated, and he trusted that others who had their minds directed to the subject would be able to elicit by the observation of those phenomena many important truths in electric science.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.—The 25th meeting of this association will commence at Glasgow, on Wednesday, September 12, on which day the general committee will meet, for the election of sectional officers, and the despatch of business usually brought before that body, and afterwards by adjournment. The first general meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 15, when the president will deliver an address; the concluding meeting on Wednesday, Sep. 19, when the association will be adjourned to its next place of meeting. At the evening meetings, discourses on certain branches of science will be delivered, and opportunity will be afforded for general conversation among the members. The committees will meet daily, from September 13 to September 18 inclusive. The sections will meet on the following days:—

The Council of the Society of Arts have just awarded their silver medal to Mr. F. L. Simmonds, for his paper "On some Undeveloped or Unappreciated Articles of Raw Produce from different parts of the World," read before the members in November last.

Meetings of Mining Companies.

POLTIMORE MINING COMPANY.

A special general meeting of shareholders was held at 20, King-street, St. James's, on Wednesday, Mr. CHARLES HENKAGE in the chair.

The SECRETARY having read the notice convening the meeting, The CHAIRMAN said the present meeting was called for the purpose of stating the result of the call of 1s. per share, and to determine upon the course to be pursued. He regretted to state that proprietors only to the extent of about 19,000 shares had responded to the call, leaving 23,000 unpaid. Under these circumstances, they had no other course but to wind-up the company. He could not understand why so large a portion of the shareholders had refused to pay, as the sale of the property must involve a very serious loss. The mine had been carried on with every regard to economy, and a further amount of capital was required to properly develop it, with every prospect of success. This had been refused; but as the committee were anxious to let the public know the amount that had been paid, the first resolution they would recommend was to extend the time of payment of the call to the 1st July. At the same time, they intended to ask on the present occasion for the authority of the shareholders to wind-up the affairs of the company, in the event of the call not being fully responded to.

A SHAREHOLDER observed that upon the last occasion some doubt existed whether they could forfeit shares in arrears of call, and it was agreed to take counsel's opinion upon the question. He wished to know whether they had the power of forfeiture?

Lord RANELAGH observed that the committee would forfeit them, if they were securely guaranteed by the shareholders.

The CHAIRMAN replied that they had no legal power to do so, and they would involve themselves in considerable difficulty if such a course was attempted; for if the mine should be brought into a flourishing condition, the parties who not refused to pay might come forward, and share with those who subscribed the additional capital required for properly working it.

Mr. MARSHALL did not believe forfeiting shares could be done safely in any mining company. The directors, in the course they were pursuing, were acting for the benefit of those shareholders who were willing to contribute the necessary capital. In those mines under the Statutory Laws shares in arrears of call could be forfeited in those courts, but even then the expense of forfeiting five shares would cost 25s.

Mr. BARKER thought they had better wind-up the company at once. The CHAIRMAN observed that they would act under legal advice, and use their best exertions for the benefit of shareholders, although he was not prepared at the present time to state the exact course it was intended to pursue.

Mr. MARSHALL then proposed a resolution to the effect, that as the holders of 18,575 shares had responded to the call, the committee be authorised to extend the time of payment to the 30th inst., remarking that the committee were willing to give the parties another opportunity of paying their calls. The fact of so large a number having paid might induce many others to join, and they were anxious that all who were willing might participate in any advantage to be gained; but if the call was not generally responded to, the only course left would be to wind-up.

The CHAIRMAN, in answer to a question by a shareholder, said it was not intended to call another meeting of the present company before winding-up, in the event of the terms of the resolution not being complied with.

Lord RANELAGH said, in plain English, unless every one paid up—the whole 42,000—they would be compelled to wind-up; but it was satisfactory to find that the holders of 18,000 shares had confidence in the mine, and it would be still more so if by the publication of the proceedings of this day the number extended to 25,000.

Mr. THORNHILL proposed immediate steps should be taken to wind-up. Mr. MORTYAT said there would be no practical disadvantage by the proposed delay, as it was quite hopeless that the whole of the shares would be paid up.

The CHAIRMAN: But it will leave no excuse to the defaulters, and not interfere with the winding-up.—Mr. THORNHILL then seconded the resolution.

Mr. LANGTON said he should move an amendment, and take the sense of the meeting upon it. He saw no reason for extending the time: the call had been advertised in the public papers, and ample opportunity afforded of testing the sincerity of those willing to go on; he would, therefore, move that no more calls be received from this day.—Mr. BARKER seconded the amendment, as he considered 18,000 shares sufficient to go on, and a new company better constituted than if they had 10,000 more.

After a very lengthy discussion, the amendment was put, but the proposer and seconder were the only two in favour of it, and the original motion was carried, with those two dissentients.

The Hon. Mr. HOWARD proposed the next resolution, authorising the committee to wind-up the company without calling another meeting in the event of the calls not being responded to by the 30th inst. He considered the course just adopted was most sensible; he, for one, had not hitherto paid the call, but had brought the money with him, and was now willing to pay, as he would rather go on with 10,000 additional shares.—Mr. HENKAGE, who was unanimously carried.

Mr. HAND proposed, and Mr. THORNHILL seconded, a resolution, that the call of 1s. per share be returned on or before the 1st of August next, in the event of the committee deciding upon winding-up the company.—Carried unanimously.

Mr. LANGTON said, perhaps it was scarcely understood, that in disposing of the concern all those individuals who had paid up the 1s. would be recognised as parties entitled to shares in any new company that might be formed.

The CHAIRMAN replied, that all who paid the call would participate if they wished. Mr. PRACOCK proposed a resolution, authorising the committee to carry on the operations of the mine, and pay the expenses out of the assets and produce. He had witnessed nothing but most straightforward conduct in the committee, and the only misfortune was that they had not been able to trace out those parties who deceived them, and to bring them to justice. When he first became connected with the mine, he was of opinion it was good for copper, and it was only to be regretted that the capital had not been devoted to that purpose; at the same time, when gold was represented as being found all over the world, it was not surprising that they were led away.

The Hon. Mr. HOWARD seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously. London Tavern to the Hon. Jacob Hagen, one of the committee of management in the colony, on the eve of his return, at which the Bishop of Tasmania, with many influential bankers, merchants, and other gentlemen connected with the colony were present, and everything appeared to augur well for the prosperity of the company.

Other purchases of land were made. In October, 1848, the directors received information of the first shipment of ore from Tungkill Mine, said to be of 30 to 40 per cent. produce, and the intimation that in all probability from 1850 to 1860 would be raised in the course of the year, and that cobalt had been discovered, about which period, however, many of the shareholders became tired out, and anxious. Much dissatisfaction was expressed as to certain proceedings on the part of the directors; charges of extravagance, and an improper application of the funds, were made; a committee of the shareholders, with Mr. R. F. Davis as chairman, was appointed to examine into the general affairs and position of the company; and eventually the original directors made way for the present board, who since their appointment have used the most strenuous exertions to resuscitate the life of the company, well terminated by the gold discoveries of 1852, and to place its undoubtedly valuable property in a healthy state.

At the annual meeting in July, 1853, the directors' report entered most fully into the position and prospects of the company. The general features were highly gratifying, and the progress of the colony was satisfactory, notwithstanding the desolation of the gold fields. The company had many male inhabitants, from the attractions of the gold fields. The company possessed 22,000 acres of land, an area 11 miles long by 3 miles wide, abounding in minerals, and within seven miles of the Murray, a river navigable for 100 miles from its mouth.

In their report at the annual meeting in August last, the directors stated that in former periods of the company's progress a large sum of money was expended in making a series of little trials, in a variety of places, a system which generally resulted in disappointment, and which they resolutely opposed. Their colonial agents were the same opinion, and desired to have a few really workable mines, and not a series of little workings. The Tungkill property, which had been let on lease for several years, had reverted to the company; and it was shown that shortly after the company enabled to ship their ore at Port Phillip, eight miles from the mine, instead of about 35 to 40 miles of land carriage, which would reduce the cost from about 3s. to 1s. 10d. The agents had let 17,200 acres of the property until August 1854 for 350s., after which it would be divided into 3000 and 4000 acre lots, suitable for dairy farms, &c.

In February last, the Australian Mining Company obtained from her Majesty's Government a Royal Charter, empowering them to make sundry alterations in the constitution; and, accordingly, an extraordinary general meeting was held at the London Tavern, on Saturday last (Mr. R. F. Davis in the chair), to consider certain resolutions made by the directors for the conversion of each share of 20s. into four shares of 5s. each, to limit the amount to be called on such shares to 10s. per share, to repurchase certain clauses in the deed, and make such other alterations in it as were necessary, expedient, in consequence of a Royal Charter of Incorporation having been obtained.

Mr. E. WALFORD (the secretary) read the notice convening the meeting, and the directors' report, a summary of which appeared in the Journal of last week. The statement of accounts showed a balance in hand of £411. 9s. 9d.

The CHAIRMAN, in moving the adoption of the resolutions, took a general review of the contents, commenting upon each paragraph in succession. He thought it would be admitted that in obtaining a Charter of Incorporation the directors had been able to obtain the most desirable object: it took them out of the operation of the Joint Stock Companies Act, and it was a privilege which no other Australian company had been able to obtain. With respect to the Tungkill Mine, on which so much money had been expended, and operations suspended for two years, it had been decided, in accordance with the advice of Capt. Jehu Hitchens, to sink Masterman's shaft, the ground being here and there the general opinion, as well as that of Capt. Hitchens, that the ore was not worth the 65 ft. level. The operations were now, the ground being here and there the general opinion, as well as that of Capt. Hitchens, that the ore was not worth the 65 ft. level. The operations were now, the ground being here and there the general opinion, as well as that of Capt. Hitchens, that the ore was not worth the 65 ft. level.

Mount Remarkable, which he considered a feature of great importance, and which would, in all probability, constitute a principal element for land as well as for the report stated that the agents had refused 21s. per acre for land at Mount Remarkable, and by the very last letters received they were informed that the agents had been obtained, showing they were perfectly correct in their valuation. The directors' report, in the advantages of other purchases, and the general satisfactory progress of the undertaking, he (the chairman) expressed, with his brother director, their great regret at being compelled to make a call of 10s. per share. They had, however, every means in their power, put off the evil day as long as possible, but funds must now be obtained.

Mr. COXHEAD, on moving an amendment, said he could not help remarking that notwithstanding the very elaborate and lucid explanation of the Chairman, he was not in a position to purchase certain property, the Tungkill Mine, and other objects of the report, by which he must acknowledge that document, there was, however, no objection to the amendment. He thought it would be admitted that in obtaining a Charter of Incorporation the directors had been able to obtain the most desirable object: it took them out of the operation of the Joint Stock Companies Act, and it was a privilege which no other Australian company had been able to obtain. With respect to the Tungkill Mine, on which so much money had been expended, and operations suspended for two years, it had been decided, in accordance with the advice of Capt. Jehu Hitchens, to sink Masterman's shaft, the ground being here and there the general opinion, as well as that of Capt. Hitchens, that the ore was not worth the 65 ft. level. The operations were now, the ground being here and there the general opinion, as well as that of Capt. Hitchens, that the ore was not worth the 65 ft. level.

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Mining Correspondence.

BRITISH MINES.

ALFRED CONSOLS.—The lode in Field's engine-shaft, sinking below the 130 fm. level, is worth for copper ore 50t. per fm. The lode in the 130 fm. level, east of this shaft, is worth for copper ore 72t. per fm. No. 2 winze is communicated to this level. The men who were sinking this winze will take down the south part of the lode at this winze, which is looking very promising. The south lode in the 130 fm. level, east of this shaft, is producing some very good copper ore, and having a very promising appearance. There has been driven on this lode 1 fm. 5 ft. 6 in.; in this driving the lode has been very much improved. The lode in the 120 fm. level is for the present suspended, it being driven east to the flookan. The lode in the 160 fm. level, west of the engine-shaft, is 3 ft. wide, and at present unproductive. The lode in the 80 fm. level, east of the flookan, is without alteration since the last report. In the 60 fm. level, south of Fryer's shaft, we have intersected the north part of the lode, it being about 1 ft. wide, containing some ore, but not to value. The north lode in the adit level is just as last reported. No change in any other of the tubwork operations since the last report. The tribute department is just the same as for some months past.—**MATTHEW WHITE:** June 11.

BEDFORD UNITED.—We have not as yet reached the lode in the 130 fm. level east of the slide, but hope to do so very shortly. The lode in the 115 fm. level east of the slide, from 3 to 4 tons of ore per fm.; in this level west the lode produces good stones of ore, and has a healthy appearance; the lode in the back of this level are worth 8 tons of ore per fm. The lode in the 105 fm. level east is 2 ft. wide—saving work. Jackson's lode in this level are worth 6 tons of ore per fm. There is no alteration in the 90 or 80 fm. levels. The lode in the 35 fm. level east is 2 feet wide, producing some very good work, and looks well for further improvement.—**JAMES PHILLIPS:** June 13.

BOLENOWE.—The lode in the 30 fm. level west is 3 ft. wide. In the 20 west the lode is 2 ft. wide, with, occasionally, small stones of ore.—**W. ROBERTS:** June 9.

BORINGDON CONSOLS.—In driving the 12 end east we have intersected the counter lode, but have not had time to ascertain its size, we have cut into it 4 feet, which has a very promising appearance, although not rich enough to save for copper ore at present, but we certainly stand a good chance to have a productive lode at this level before driving many fathoms; the lode is composed of a light capel, quartz, gossan, flookan, mudi, with good spots of copper ore, and a large stream of water issuing from it. In the past week we have met with a bunch of elvan in the back of the 24 end east, in which the lode has been very productive for lead ore all the length and height of the elvan, and more clean from mudi than I have ever before seen it; this I consider is a good feature, and it shows that the lode is very likely to be more productive when seen in the elvan course in the next level. All the other parts of the mine are much the same as for some time past.—**W. GODDEN:** June 14.

BOTTLE HILL.—In the cross-cut in the 123 fm. level there is every appearance of being near the lode, as we are constantly meeting with branches of capels and spar, impregnated with arsenical mudi, with large streams of water issuing all over the end. In the 112 fm. level the lode is 18 in. wide, producing saving work.—**South Lode:** In the 100 fm. level west we are driving by the side of the lode. The lode throughout the mine are much the same as last reported. We sampled 4 tons of tin on Saturday last.—**J. GIFFORD:** June 13.

BRYNFORN HALL.—The lode east over the 50 continues good, and we have now a lode west from the rise, which will at present produce from 2 to 3 tons per fm. The vein in the forepart of the 50 is from 12 to 15 inches wide, with a little ore, and encouraging appearance. The 50 in the chert vein is from 3 to 4 feet wide, in a little better ground for driving. The workings at Mattheys are progressing favourably. We sold 10 tons to-day, at 14t. 5s. 6d. per ton.—**W. FRANCIS:** June 14.

BRYN-Y-PEDWEN.—We are making good progress in sinking the winze under the 20, on the south lode, the winze is now down 15 fms. 2 feet below that level; the lode in the present bottom is of just the same character as when last reported, being 4 feet wide, unproductive. The water continues to come from the same place in the western end, 10 fms. below the 20, the last place we had the ore in sinking; we have put in a elstern at this place, and have taken up the water from going to the bottom; the winze is now quite dry for sinking under this elstern. The rise in the back of the deep adit level against the winze sinking under the 20 has been up 1 fm. 4 ft. since our last report, and is now 3 fms. 4 ft. above the level. The lode at this place is just of the same character as in the winze. I hope we shall get a communication through it in about a fortnight from this time, and we shall be able to cut out the surface in cutting out ground for the slides and upper flooring, and also cutting out the railroad along the mountain side from the mouth of the deep adit level, on the Bryn-y-Pedwen lode, to the south lode. This flat railroad will bring all the stuff from the Cae Conroy and the Bryn-y-Pedwen lodes to the south lode, and so make one dressing-floor answer for the whole.—**June 11.**

BUTTERDON.—The engine-shaft is sunk 12 fms. 4 ft. below the 30. The lode is much the same as when last reported—viz., 1 ft. wide, composed of can, lead, mudi, and small particles of yellow copper ore.—**T. GREENFIELD:** June 12.

CAE-GYNON.—The lode in the 20 east is 4 feet wide, very strong, and producing good ore and blende. The 20 west has improved, and we have to-day broken some good ore from it. The lode in the winze is looking well. The lode is producing as usual.—**E. STRIDMAN:** June 13.

CALSTOCK UNITED.—During the past week the lode at the shaft has produced small bolls of spar, spotted with copper ore, and is changing its underlie, the footwall being now nearly perpendicular. In the cross-cut south, in the 60, there is no change, the ground is very firm. In the driving west on the lode in the 60, a branch of spar, spotted with mudi, has come in from the south side, which has not yet been cut through, but many veins and branches of mudi have been met with during the past week. The ground here is heavy, and will require timbering.—**W. COOK:** June 9.

CAMBORNE CONSOLS.—In the 33 fm. level west, on the counter, the lode is 1 ft. wide, producing nearly 1 ton of ore per fm. The lode in the 20 west is 2 ft. wide, with a branch on the north side 6 in. wide—saving work.—**W. ROBERTS:** June 9.

CARRACK-DEWS UNITED.—We have met with a course of ore at the Battery end of the mine, and the lode here bids fair to rival that at Eley's shaft. Having extended the 20 fathom level on the Battery shaft lode about 15 fms., I commenced a cross-cut south, and on Saturday last cut the lode, with a very promising course of ore, already worth 6t. per fathom; having met with this 10 fms. further back than in the level above, I think we may safely say that this is an important discovery, because this ground stands whole and to the surface, as the level is not driven on the course of this lode, and we only saw it by means of the cross-cut. There is no alteration at Battery shaft, except that the ground is rather harder; we are now down 6 fms. under the 20 fathom level. With regard to Eley's shaft, I can scarcely add anything to my last report. We are here progressing our speculation, and at the same time raising ore; the lode in the 22 fm. level, which has not yet been cut through, is a hard stone in the back; it is worth 4t. per fathom, while at the shaft it is worth 24t. per fathom. In stopping the back over the 22 fm. level we are raising about 1 ton of ore per fathom. Our sampling, on the 26th instant, will realise all I promised you.—**MARTIN DENN:** June 12.

CARVANALL.—This week the summen have been cutting plat in the 118. The other levels driving west are progressing favourably, but without any particular alteration since last reported. The tribute pitches continue much the same as usual.—**WILLIAM ROBERTS:** June 9.

CLARA.—I was underground at this mine yesterday, and beg to hand you my report of the present appearances. The lode in the end driving west of the cross-cut is 4 ft. wide, composed of a beautiful light blue kilaas, with a mixture of ore, yielding at present 1 ton to the fathom. The level is now extended west to within 2 fms. of an old shaft sunk by the ancients from the surface, but to what extent we cannot ascertain; our intention is to commence driving and securing it from the surface, so that we may be able to communicate from this shaft to our present bottom level. When this is accomplished, I have no doubt but it will lay open a large quantity of good ore ground. We are now in regular course of working, and our pond is full of water.—**S. TRIVETTAN:** June 14.

CLOWANCE WOOD.—In the adit end, driving west of Slater's shaft, the lode is 6 in. wide, composed of grey mudi and spots of copper ore.—**E. CHOWIN:** Thos. DELBROCK: June 11.

CROSSGILL HEAD CONSOLS.—The bowse in the level forehead is now being drawn to surface, the level being widened, and the rails laid up to this place. The greater part of the men are stopping the back of the level, as before, and as soon as the bowse is cleared out we shall resume the driving of the 17 fm. level south. The lode will be about completed this week.—**T. DICKINSON:** June 11.

CROW HILL (St. STEPHENS).—We have nearly sunk the shaft to the 55 fm. level; it will require a short time to timber and secure it, so as to bring down the whimble, and we shall then drive to cut the lode, which we consider is not far distant. We may, however, have to drive a few fathoms on the course of the lode before its character can be developed.—**J. PICKETT:**

CUBERT UNITED.—At Trebickin, the lode in the 65 fm. level, west end, is full 1 ft. wide, composed of quartz flookan, and mudi, worth about 2 cwt. per fm. The lode in the back of the 55, west of shaft, are much the same as last stated, worth 3 cwt. lead per fm.; the lode in the back of this level, west of James's rise, are worth 3 cwt. per fm.; the lode in the back of this level east are not quite so good for lead, now worth from 2 to 3 cwt. per fm. At Trebickin, the shaftmen are now engaged in sinking the engine-shaft, but have broken down no lode. The lode in the 68, south end, is 1 ft. wide, composed of quartz, prlan, and mudi, not quite so good for lead, worth (say) from 1 to 2 cwt. per fm. There has been no lode taken down north in this level for the past week. The lode in the 66, north end, is small, and, for the present unproductive. The lode in the back of the 56, north of shaft, are worth about 4 cwt. lead per fm.; the lode in this level, south of sumpwinze, is 10 in. wide, composed of quartz, prlan, and mudi, producing some good stones of lead; the lode in the back of this level are worth about 6 cwt. of lead ore per fathom.—**J. TAYNIN:** June 9.

CWMDYLE.—At Price's level we have cleared the lode in the back of the east ground, where there are indications of some good ore. The lode in the lode working in the high back is improved; we have a branch on the south wall, 15 in. wide, good ore. In No. 6 level we have broken some good rocks of ore on the north of the kilaas. In the large stop we shall be obliged to take down some ground, to throw open this course of ore. Nos. 3 and 4 stopes are producing about 2½ tons per fm. On Lake lode we have broken a small quantity of ore; an additional part will be put on here on Monday. Stopping will be carried on at the west end; on the east we have to drive through about 9 feet of cross-ground, when we expect to intersect the lode. A cargo of ore being ready, owing to a few days' delay it cannot all be got to Carnarvon until Wednesday.—**T. COLLIVER:** June 9.

DEVON BULLER.—The shaftmen commenced sinking on Tuesday last. I am glad to say the ground is favourable for sinking, and have no doubt of getting on rapidly with the next 15 fms. I am also glad to say that the lode in the 20 fm. level, in the west end, is improving, and getting more compact, with two well-defined walls about 7 ft. apart. On the south part of the lode there is a branch about 7 in. wide, producing good stones of copper ore; on the north part of the lode there is a branch 9 in. wide, composed of ore and mudi, the remainder part of the lode is mixed with kilaas and branches of ore throughout, which I think for the future must all be saving work, and have every reason to expect a greater improvement as we extend this level west, which is now about 60 fathoms east, where the ore was raised by the tributaries about 5 fms. deep; the lode in the end is very much disordered, producing occasional stones of copper ore, and altogether I think our prospects to be very cheering.—**W. NEILL:**

DEVON BURRA BURRA.—During the past week, we have extended the cross-cut 2 fms., and our present end is 70 fms. from the engine-shaft. The character of the ground is much the same as last reported, consisting of a light blue kilaas, and presenting every favourable indication. From all appearances, we cannot think it will be long before we cut the lode.—**J. LEAN:** June 11.

DUNSLEY WHEEL PHOENIX.—There is no material alteration in the stopes since last report. Having completed our railway, the men have again resumed working in the stopes, and shall take down the lode in the course of a few days. We have marked out the spot for the new engine-shaft, so as to take the lodes at a deeper point; we shall commence this shaft to-morrow with all possible speed. The ground appears to be favourable for sinking, and I have reason to believe we shall be able to sink 10 or 15 fathoms by manual labour, as the season is favourable.—**J. SPARCO:**

EAGLEBROOK.—We have completed putting in its place the 10 fm. lift of 10 in. pumps, which do their work very well. We are now sinking below the 10 with the 6-in. lift. Since my last report our shaftmen have been chiefly employed in fixing the ladder-rod in the shaft, and bringing down the 6-in. lift for sinking deeper. In the 10, east of shaft, we are still driving a cross-cut north about 6 fms. from the shaft; at this place the lode appears to be severed, and the northern part contains very good stones of ore, lying in the same sort of ground as in the adit level. We intend to continue this cross-cut till we have ascertained the most productive part of the lode, and then to drive on it. In the 10 west we have a branch of very good ore on the south wall, producing from 10 to 12 cwt. per fathom. This wall is well-defined, with an underlie of 1 ft. 6 in., and the lode has a very kindly appearance, but is somewhat troublesome to drive on account of the great quantity of water which comes from it. The two men whom we placed to follow the branch coming into the lode at 24 fathoms west of the old engine-shaft are finding some good stones of ore in driving north-west; in fact, wherever we have tried to the north of the level we have found ore, and have no doubt but that in opening the ground in this direction we shall have a large quantity. We are now well supplied with water for the machinery. All other work is going on well.—**June 4.**

I have to inform you that our engine-shaft is now sunk about 14 ft. below the 10; the lode is the full width of the shaft, which is 7 feet wide, composed of white spar and clay-slate, with a fair mixture of lead in the eastern end, and symptoms of improvement. We have driven a cross cut in the 10 east, about 16 feet from the south wall of the lode, and are not yet through the lode, as we are still cutting strings of ore, and I am the more confirmed in my opinion that large deposits of ore will be found on this northern side. In driving the level west we are 8 fms. from shaft; the lode is here narrowed, apparently by a band of porphyry, and is not so productive as it was when last reported. In cutting down the north side of the adit level, 34 fathoms west of the old engine-shaft, we still find much carbonate of lead, and occasionally good stones of lead ore. We are getting on well with the cottages; the walls are nearly completed, and part of the wood-work.—**June 12.**

EAST BLACK CRAIG.—The ground in the 22 end west is much harder than last week, although it has still good stones of lead through it; the winze in the bottom of the 22 east is going down through the same strings and branches of lead which we had in the 27 cross-cut below. The engine-shaft is in ground favourable for lead, and the men find some fine spots, occasionally in sinking, although we can scarcely expect to see much, owing to the dip of the lead bunch of ground to the east of us. The lode is looking much the same.—**R. WILLIAMS:** June 14.

EAST GUNN'S LAKE AND SOUTH BEDFORD CONSOLS.—There is no alteration to report in the engine-shaft. In the 49 fm. level west the lode is 6 ft. wide, and will yield 3 tons of ore per fathom, and promising improvement. The winze in the 30 fm. level is now 4 ft. wide, the lode is 3 ft. wide, yielding from 4 to 5 tons of ore per fathom; this winze will come down about 4 fathoms before the present 49 and I am pleased to say the lode in Red-Whim shaft is very much improved, being 5 feet wide, and worth 3 tons of ore per fathom. In the 36 fathom level west, on the middle lode, the lode is 2 ft. wide, saving work. On the whole, our prospects are very encouraging.—**J. PHILLIPS:** June 13.

EAST WHEEL GEORGE.—The men are getting on as fast as possible with the sinking of the engine-shaft; the ground consists chiefly of capel and spar, spotted with ore and mudi.

EAST WHEEL RUSSELL.—We have completed laying down the rails for tramway in the 66, and commenced driving. The 55 is still looking promising, not without ore. Homersham's shaft is sunk about 5 fms. below the Tunnel level.—**W. METHERELL:** June 14.

ESGAR MYWYN.—In the 25 fm. level west the lode looks promising. In the stopes in back of the 20, above south winze, we have a very good lode, and the men having now got it into working order, we hope to break a larger quantity of ore at this point than we have done for some weeks past. We have sampled, to-day, for a parcel of ore, computed at 55 tons, for sale on 19th inst.—**S. VIAL:** J. PAUL: June 5.

FREE DONALD.—The lode in the Antimony end driving west, and also in the end driving east, on the lode, south of Antimony, is the same as last reported on. The lode in the 40 fm. level, south of the lode north of the Antimony, has still a very promising appearance, being 3 ft. 6 in. wide, with stones of lead ore. The lode in the end, driving west on the Smiddy lode, is not looking so well this week as it has been for some weeks before.—**J. MURPHY:** June 11.

GILMAR.—The 30 fm. level cross-cut is driven north from the engine-shaft 13 fms. 4 ft., the ground a little eased, showing favourable indications; we are near the lode. Mitchell's flat-rod shaft has been sunk 11 fathoms below the adit, where we have commenced opening on the course of the branches; the present ends, east and west of the said shaft, have a similar appearance to what we have sunk through in the shaft—viz., 9t. per fm. In the 10 fm. level, east of Field's shaft, the branches are producing tin, but not much to value. In the adit level, east of the same shaft, the lode is 3 ft. wide, and the same as last reported, worth 4t. per fm. In the adit level, west of Mitchell's shaft, we have commenced sinking a winze in the old former workers' bottoms, and have sunk 6 feet during the past week, through a lode worth 5t. per fm.; in the present bottom we have cut a slide, which we consider to be a very good indication for a greater improvement in depth.—**W. JONES:** J. MONCOW.

GREAT COWHAR.—I have nothing particular to mention this week. I am pushing on the 30 fathom level south as fast as possible; the ground is a little harder, which rather impedes our progress, but I think from the appearance this morning a change for the better will soon take place. The ground in the winze in the bottom of the 20 fm. level continues favourable for sinking, lode about 3 ft. wide, composed of kilaas, carbonate of lime, and stones of lead; I hope to be able to report more favourably from this place in the course of a short time.—**N. BRAY:** June 13.

GREAT CRINIS.—We continue the summen sinking the winze in the bottom of the 80 fm. level, where the lode is very promising, carrying a leader 6 in. thick, nearly solid ore, a sample of which is at the office; we do not, however, expect to be able to sink much further at present as the water is very quick, and expensive to keep out by hand. This has been persevered in, with a view of proving the lode, to determine about sinking deeper, which we can do at a trifling expense, having pump work upon the ground sufficient for about 20 fathoms further, which will bring us 100 fms. below adit, and the sooner this is done the better. We continue to drive the cross-cut in the 64 fm. level, at Union shaft, towards the north lode, and expect every day to cut it. We have also opened a cross-cut in the 40, at engine shaft, towards the north lode, believing it will make ore at these levels, as we have opened up it for many fms. in the 24 fm. level, where we have got some excellent stones of ore, which are generally holding down in the bottom of the level, but cannot prove it deeper until we cut it at a lower level to take away the water. The middle lode is at present poor in the end, but we are getting some good work from the stopes, particularly from the back of the 40, east of the engine-shaft. We have also some good ore from the rise in the 70, at Union shaft, upon the great lode; likewise, from a near pitch opened in the 24, at Catherine's shaft, on the same lode. The tribute pitches are generally much the same as last reported. We have nearly 100 tributaries of work upon copper and silver, at tributaries varying from 4s. 6d. to 13s. 4d. in 17, all of which are doing well.—**June 12.**

GREAT HEWAS.—Nothing new in the 56 fm. level. In the 46 fm. level we have a good lode, but the north lode is still further north. We are driving the 36 and 26 fm. levels north with all speed, as we have important points to develop; the indications met with, and the character of the ground, afford sanguine expectations and great encouragement for perseverance, and I fully believe on laying open these lodes we shall be in a good position. The old stopes in the back of the 36 fm. level are yielding large quantities of tinstuff, but of low produce. One or two of the stopes in the new ground are looking well. The works generally are going on well, and nothing is wanting but more tin, and there is no doubt it is ahead of us.—**JOHN WENN:**

GREAT SORTIDGE CONSOLS.—Hitchins's shaft is sunk from surface 14 fms. 4 ft., and the appearances in every respect are much the same as last reported. Our little engine works well, and keeps the water without difficulty.—**T. METHERELL:** June 14.

GREAT SOUTH TOLGUS.—The lode in the 70 fm. level is 2 ft. wide, producing 2 tons of copper ore per fm. In the 60 fm. level the lode is 2 ft. wide, producing 1 ton of copper ore per fathom. In the 50 fathom level the lode is 1½ ft. wide, producing 2 tons per fathom. The pitches continue to work well.—**J. DAW:** June 9.

GREAT TRVEDDOE (TIN).—These mines are now in full operation, with ample water-power, and are regularly increasing the tin raised for sale. The additional proposition to erect another wheel, 32 ft. in diameter, now on stock, to work 24 adventures stamp, which will increase the produce for sale at least one-third, and speedily enable the company to make a dividend.—**AT CABELLA (COPPER) Mine,** which is now worked by the same adventurers, a wheel 32 feet diameter, with iron rings and axle, has been erected. There are already 30 fms. lift of pumps at the mine, with flat-roads and every requisite material, and the water will soon be in fork. In forming the bob-pit a copper lode was cut.

GREAT WHEEL FORTUNE.—Harvey's engine-shaft is still sinking below the 60 fm. level, without any material alteration since last report. The south part of the above shaft, 5 feet wide, is worth 22t. per fm.; we have set to take down the north side of this level as high as the lode, 6 feet wide, at 6s. 8d. tribute. The lode in the 60 west is 3½ feet wide, worth 10t. per fm. for tin and copper ore. The lode in the rise in back of this level, 20 fms. behind the present end, is 4 ft. wide, worth 17t. per fathom. The south part of the lode in the 50, west of Copper-house shaft, is 1½ ft. wide, worth 16t. per fm.; the north part will be taken down when properly drained. The tribute ground in the back of this level is producing good average quality stamping work. The lode in the 40, west of Old Flat-rod shaft, is 2½ feet wide, worth 7t. 10s. per fathom; the back of this level is yielding large quantities of good quality stamping work. The north lode in the 30, west of Trebickin's shaft, is 4 feet wide, worth 12t. per fm.; the tribute ground in the back of this level is improved since last report. The lode in the 20, west of the 30, is 3 ft. wide, producing saving work for tin. The tribute department generally is improved since my last. The stamping and raising engine is at present in full operation, drawing from the different levels, after the tinstuff is discharged, so as to keep the mine properly at work; we shall immediately commence to stamp, which will be on Thursday next.—**S. S. NOBLE:** June 11.

GREAT WHEEL MARTHA.—I promised some time since to give you my opinion as to Wheel Martha old lode, and having weighed the matter over very carefully, I have come to the conclusion that good may be done by erecting the water-wheel on the underlay shaft, and fork the water to the 20 fathom level, as I well know, when underground in that portion of the mine, I formed the decided opinion that there was nothing to prevent the greatest part of the ground driven through paying well for working and taking away, from the advance in the standard of copper, which is considerable since that period; and no inconsiderable profit may be obtained from saving the very large quantities of mudi the lode contains, at the same cost of raising. I have had the opinion of several men well conversant with the mine, who state that they would engage on tribute, if the water was cut, at 10s. in 17. There are hundreds of tons of ore driven through that can be taken away at that price, and from what I see I do not doubt it. I shall be glad by your giving this your attention, as I am fully confident it will be the means of raising the character of the concern, and setting the mine fairly and fully at work. Should you think well of this I will give you an estimate of the expense, being precise, the plan will do, and I shall be glad to see it carried out.—**STEPHEN PATEL:** June 15.

GREAT WHEEL VOR.—The masons, smiths, and carpenters, on Trelawny's 35 and 22 in. engines, are making rapid progress in the various works, and the railroad is still in active progress. On the main lode, the water being in fork, Crease's summen have fixed bearers, and dropped the lifts to within 6 ft. of the stuff on the sump in the 104. The engine is working well, and the water will be in fork by the middle of next week, when we shall commence to clear the stuff. We are clearing the stuff east and west on the main lode as fast as possible, and continuing the footway in East shaft to the 87, and the ground now laying open is likely to prove very valuable. On

Grouse's lode the prospects are very cheering. At Wheel Metal, the 16, west of engine-shaft, is worth 45t., and the 70 east, 55t. per fathom. The lode in Wheel Metal, in the different levels, continues to improve, and the prospects of the mine and lode lodes are fully equal to our most sanguine expectations.

HAWKMOOR.—The eastern shaft is now 4 fms. 3 ft. below the 30 fm. level; in the last 6 feet the lode has been disordered, and the ground much broken up, which has greatly impeded our progress in sinking. We have every reason to believe we have got through this troublesome floor of ground, and expect the lode will become more productive. The rise in the back of the 30 fm. level, east of the shaft, is producing some saving work, but there is no regular leader. The stopes in the back of the 30 are poor, and, unless they improve, will be suspended after next week, and set on tribute after we have holed to the winze. In the midway level, driving east towards the rise, no lode has been taken down this week. In the 20 the lode is 1½ in. wide, producing some good floors of ore in the last 3 fathoms, but not to value. The lode is very regular, and ground favourable in driving. In the pitch in the 20, west of shaft, we are driving by the side of the lode until we get out of the way of the lode. The pitch west of great cross-course is much improved since last setting.—**J. RICHARDS:** June 9.

HEMERDON CONSOLS.—In the 30 fm. level east we are driving by the side of the lode. In the same level west the lode is 18 inches wide, and of a promising appearance, but not rich. In the 15 fm. level east the lode is 2 feet wide, saving work. At the eastern shaft, where we are sinking to communicate with the 15 fm. level, we are 2 or 3 fms. before the present end, the lode is 2½ feet wide, producing saving work. The stopes are yielding more favourably, and looking at the mine at the present time, I think it shows a more favourable aspect than for some time past. We sampled 4 tons of tin on Saturday last.—**J. GIFFORD:** June 13.

HILL BRIDGE CONSOLS.—The ground in Wheel Jewel shaft is still favourable for sinking, and the lode spotted with copper throughout, and is full 7 ft. wide, underlying south about 9 inches in 6 feet. We are now down about 7 fms. under the bed of the Tavy River, and from 17 to 18 fathoms from the surface; the lode now appears to be in a settled country, and I flatter myself that we shall not sink many fathoms deeper before we meet with a much greater improvement in this splendid looking lode.—**J. SPARCO:** June 12.

HINGTON DOWN CONSOLS.—Morris's engine-shaft is almost completed to the intended depth for a 35 fm. level, and I hope to commence driving east and west at that point in about a week from this date. Doldge's winze will also have been cut to the desired depth to admit of the extension of levels both east and west from that point, and I hope most satisfactory results will be realised. There is no material alteration to notice elsewhere.—**W. RICHARDS:** June 13.

HOLMBUSH.—In the western end of the 145 fathom level, on the Holmbush lode, from the indications it presents, there is every reason to expect a continuation, if not an improvement. The lode in the 145 fathom level west, on the Flat-jack mine, is full 2 feet wide, producing over ½ ton of ore per fathom, of good quality. The cross-cut driving south in this level is progressing as fast as possible.

HOPE VALLEY.—The lode in the 35 fm. level driving south is about 18 in. wide, carrying a leader of lead ore on the hanging wall about 1 inch. No. 2 pitch, in the back of the 35 fm. level, is yielding a little lead ore, but not rich. The lode in No. 3 pitch, in the back of the 35 fm. level, is very much improved in the past week, and will now produce 1 ton of lead ore per fm. No. 4 pitch, in the back of the same level, south of the winze last holed, is not quite so good as before, and will now yield 1 cwt. of lead ore per fm. No. 1 pitch, in the back of the 23 fm. level, is at present poor. No. 2 pitch, in the back of the same level, will produce 10 cwt. of lead ore per fm. The pitch in the back of the deep adit level is yielding a small quantity of lead ore, I am sorry to say that we have had a misfortune, in breaking the shaft connecting with the drawing and crushing apparatus, which will impede our drawing and crushing until another can be supplied from the foundry; immediate steps have been taken to put this right again, but it will be a week, or nearly so, before it can be set to work again. This accident will have a tendency to reduce our sampling for June.—**WILLIAM BARRATT:** June 13.

IVYBRIDGE.—The lode in the 48 fm. level south is now 7 ft. wide, leading through, with a leader on the hanging wall 20 inches wide, nearly solid lead ore, and is driving at 34. 10s. per fm. The lode in the winze sinking under the 43 is from 1 to 5 feet wide, of the same valuable character, and is sinking at 4t. 10s. per fm. The pitch in the back of the 43, approaching the 32, is looking well, and the tributaries are working with spirit. The 43 fm. level is at present suspended until we hole the winze, which we shall again resume driving, and have every reason to believe we shall have another shoot of good ore ground on meeting an east and west lode in that direction. The cross-cut to the new shaft is set to six men, at 6t. per fm., limited 5 fms., which will nearly complete the driving. The new engine-shaft is sinking by six men and three labourers, at 11t. 11s. per fm., and have about 8 fms. to sink to the 33 fm. level. The new engine-house and crusher-house are being built rapidly. The dressing department is going on very satisfactorily. We shall have the prices of our last sampling in a day or so.—**J. CLEMO:** H. JAMES.

LANHEROKE WHEEL MARIA.—The cross-cut in the 30 is driven through the lode 6 feet, but no north wall visible as yet, and the end still continues hard and wet, producing capel, mudi, and spar, with a little copper intermixed. In the 40 west the lode still continues very large, and producing a little ore from the north part, with mudi and strong capel. In the 40 east the men are engaged in driving a cross-cut south, to cut through the lode, the north part of which, as far as cut into (about 2 ft.) is poor, chiefly composed of capel, with spots of copper and lead. The tribute pitches are looking much the same as for some time past.—**June 12.**

MARK VALLEY.—In driving the 90 east the ground is rather easier; driving north in the same level it is hard granite. In the 80, driving west, the E. & D. lode continues to yield 4 tons of copper ore per fathom, of good quality, and driving east, 2 tons. In the 65 the lode in the bottom is producing 7 tons of copper ore per fathom, and the lode in the winze 7 tons. Driving east from the winze in bottom of the same level the lode continues to yield 10 tons per fathom, and at present the bottom of the midway level 15 tons. Driving the 50 west, the lode is composed of quartz and capel, mixed with mudi and copper ore. In sinking Fawcett's shaft the ground has a little improved.—**June 9.**

MERLLYN.—Our surface operations are progressing favourably, and we are using every economy in preparing for future operations. We are busily engaged fixing rods and pulleys, entering the foundation for bobs; and we have the masons working—viz., building a wall for the bob near the engine. The weather is very favourable for us to complete the rods for the pumping-engine to Bryn Ferrod shaft. This shaft is now widened for 23 fathoms deep, and we have about 6 fathoms more to widen to secure before we reach the bottom, and 4 fms. of that is in the water, consequently our future progress will be retarded. When we get the shaft completed we shall be in a position to fix the plunger-lift and rods; when these are completed we shall be in a position to make monthly returns from this shaft.—**VICTORIA SHAFT:** This shaft is now sunk down 4½ fms. below the 20 fm. level. We are sinking upon the junction of two lodes, but they are at present unproductive for lead ore; we have 5½ fms. more to sink, then we shall commence driving east and west, as it were, from this junction. The other company raised a large quantity of ore, and divided between 5000t. and 6000t. in dividends, in the levels above.—**Boundary or Northern Shaft:** We have commenced sinking in this shaft, after scotching the shaft to make it perpendicular. We have commenced sinking below the 10 fm. level; the ground at present is hard, but we expect in about 2 fathoms more to be able to cut the lode of lead; then we shall have to erect a winze to draw out the stuff. I expect in about six weeks to have these new shafts in a position to turn out a good quantity of ore. I have engaged a vessel, and the captain promised to commence loading the calamine on Friday next for Maryport from Dee Bank.—**W. RAMSDEN:** June 12.

MOLLAND.—The pitch in the back of the 62 fm. level is worth at present 6t. 10s. per fathom. The pitch in the 52 fm. level east has improved since last week, and is at present worth 6t. 10s. per fathom, although the ground is harder for excavating than heretofore. The pitch in the back of the 42 fm. level east is worth at present about 8t. per fathom; this pitch having been holed in the past week, and in consequence in the bottom of the 30 fm. level, it is now well ventilated, and the winze sinking below the men

HEAT WITHOUT FUEL.—The problem of acquiring heat without fuel appears to have been solved by the invention of the machine of M.M. Beaumont and Mayer, with which, by friction alone, they can make water vapor. The machine, which may be seen at the establishment on the Quai Valmy, contains 400 litres of water, which is made to boil in two hours. A cone of wood, which turns in a cylinder so as to produce the necessary friction, is covered with tow, and that tow, in order that it may not catch fire, is kept constantly moistened by a stream of oil which runs on it. The heat gradually increases, until at last steam is generated.

The Mining Market; Prices of Metals, Ores, &c.

METAL MARKET, London, June 16, 1885.

COPPER.		S. & A.		BRASS (sheets).....p. lb.		100 lb.	
Sheathing and bolts	p. lb.	0 1 2	0 1 2	Wire	.....p. lb.	11 1/2	11 1/2
Bottoms	.....p. lb.	0 1 2	0 1 2	Foreign	.....p. lb.	22 15 0	22 15 0
Old (Exchange)	.....p. lb.	0 1 2	0 1 2	To arrive	.....p. lb.	22 15 0	22 15 0
Best selected	.....p. lb.	125 0 0	125 0 0	In sheets	.....p. lb.	23 0 0	23 0 0
Tough cake	.....p. lb.	125 0 0	125 0 0	English, blocks	.....p. lb.	111 0 0	111 0 0
Tin	.....p. lb.	125 0 0	125 0 0	Ditto, Bars (in barrels)	.....p. lb.	112 0 0	112 0 0
South American	.....p. lb.	125 0 0	125 0 0	Ditto, Refined	.....p. lb.	114 0 0	114 0 0
IRON.		per Ton.		Banco	.....p. lb.	112 0 0	112 0 0
Bars, Welsh, in London	.....p. lb.	8 0 0	8 10 0	IC Charcoal, let qua. p. bx.	.....p. lb.	1 11 0	1 12 0
Ditto, to arrive	.....p. lb.	7 15 0	8 0 0	IX Ditto 1st quality	.....p. lb.	1 17 0	1 18 0
Nail rods	.....p. lb.	8 10 0	8 10 0	IX Ditto 2d quality	.....p. lb.	1 9 0	1 10 0
7, Stafford, in London	.....p. lb.	8 10 0	9 10 0	IX Ditto 2d quality	.....p. lb.	1 15 0	1 16 0
Bars, ditto	.....p. lb.	8 10 0	9 10 0	IX Coke	.....p. lb.	1 6 0	1 6 0
Hoops, ditto	.....p. lb.	9 10 0	10 0 0	IX Ditto	.....p. lb.	1 12 0	1 12 0
4 sheets, single	.....p. lb.	9 15 0	10 10 0	Canada plates	.....p. lb.	15 0 0	15 0 0
Pig, No. 1, in Wales	.....p. lb.	4 15 0	5 0 0	In London; 20s. less at the works.			
Refined metal, ditto	.....p. lb.	—	—	Yellow Metal Sheathing	.....p. lb.	11 1/2	11 1/2
Bars, common, ditto	.....p. lb.	7 0 0	7 5 0	Wetterstedt's Pat. Met.	.....p. lb.	2 2 0	2 2 0
Ditto, railway, ditto	.....p. lb.	6 15 0	7 0 0	Stirling's Non-lamina-	.....p. lb.	0 0 0	0 0 0
Ditto, Swedish, in Lond.	.....p. lb.	13 12 6	15 10 0	Stirling's Pat. Met.	.....p. lb.	0 0 0	0 0 0
Pig, No. 1, in Clyde	.....p. lb.	3 18 0	3 19 0	Stirling's Pat. Met.	.....p. lb.	0 0 0	0 0 0
LEAD.		per Ton.		Stirling's Pat. Met.	.....p. lb.	0 0 0	0 0 0
English Pig	.....p. lb.	22 10 0	23 0 0	Stirling's Pat. Met.	.....p. lb.	0 0 0	0 0 0
Ditto sheet	.....p. lb.	23 10 0	24 0 0	Stirling's Pat. Met.	.....p. lb.	0 0 0	0 0 0
Ditto rod lead	.....p. lb.	23 10 0	24 0 0	Stirling's Pat. Met.	.....p. lb.	0 0 0	0 0 0
Ditto white	.....p. lb.	27 10 0	28 0 0	Stirling's Pat. Met.	.....p. lb.	0 0 0	0 0 0
Ditto patent shot	.....p. lb.	27 10 0	28 0 0	Stirling's Pat. Met.	.....p. lb.	0 0 0	0 0 0
Spanish, in bond	.....p. lb.	21 0 0	22 0 0	Stirling's Pat. Met.	.....p. lb.	0 0 0	0 0 0
American	.....p. lb.	21 0 0	22 0 0	Stirling's Pat. Met.	.....p. lb.	0 0 0	0 0 0
FOREIGN STEEL.		per Ton.		Stirling's Pat. Met.	.....p. lb.	0 0 0	0 0 0
Swedish, in keg, to arr.	.....p. lb.	18 5 0	19 0 0	Stirling's Pat. Met.	.....p. lb.	0 0 0	0 0 0
Ditto, in fagots	.....p. lb.	22 0 0	23 0 0	Stirling's Pat. Met.	.....p. lb.	0 0 0	0 0 0
English, Spring	.....p. lb.	21 0 0	22 0 0	Stirling's Pat. Met.	.....p. lb.	0 0 0	0 0 0
QUICKSILVER.		p. lb.		Stirling's Pat. Met.	.....p. lb.	0 0 0	0 0 0
In Liverpool, 5s. per ton less.		1s 10d	1s 11d	Stirling's Pat. Met.	.....p. lb.	0 0 0	0 0 0
At the works, 1s. to 1s. 6d. per box less.		1s 10d	1s 11d	Stirling's Pat. Met.	.....p. lb.	0 0 0	0 0 0

REMARKS.—The improved feeling in our market, as noticed in our last report, has continued throughout the past week. Sellers have been very firm in their prices, and in many instances have been enabled to obtain an advance. Iron keeps steady, with a tendency to advance; spelter has risen 10s. to 15s. per ton; higher prices have also been paid for tin.

COPPER.—There is a good trade doing in this metal, and smelters command former prices. The sale of ores at Swansea, on the 12th instant, amounted to 1297 tons; the quantity announced to be brought forward for sale on the 26th inst. is 1955 tons.

IRON.—Contracts have been passed in English bars at 77. 15s., to arrive, and nail rods at 84. 10s. per ton; nevertheless, a contract for 200 tons, at 77. 15s., has been accepted for delivery from stock now in London; but this latter price is no criterion as to the general price affixed by holders in London, for they are more disposed to raise present prices than sell at anything under 84. per ton. In Staffordshire iron, there is a better demand, and our prices have improved, more particularly for common quality. Scotch pigs have been steady, with very little variation in prices; there has not been much doing in our market, but prices being reported firm in Glasgow cause holders here to demand similar quotations: 77s., mixed numbers, cash, quoted on 'Change to-day.

LEAD.—There is no alteration to observe in the demand or value of this metal.

SPELTER.—At the close of last week, 227. 15s. was paid for a parcel to arrive; since which a few small lots have been sold on the spot, varying from 227. 10s. to 227. 15s.

TIN.—English is firm. Banca is also firm; 67 fl. has been paid in Amsterdam. The next sale is announced for the 16th of August, when 114,528 slabs will be sold, with power to add 20,000, if arrived in time. Straits in good demand; a sale of 500 slabs was made at 110s. to-day, and the market closes with buyers at the same price.

TIN-PLATES.—The makers are now demanding 6d. per box higher than last week's quotation, which has been paid.

STEEL.—Of Swedish keg, 100 kegs have been sold at 187. 10s., which clears the market of present stock.

QUICKSILVER.—The demand continues steady, but quiet.

GLASGOW, JUNE 14.—Since last report the market for pig-iron has been very steady, the fluctuations not exceeding 1s. per ton, and a moderate business transacting. The shipments have again been large, causing a further decrease of stock in the week of 2500 or 3000 tons. The closing prices to-day are—Buyers, 76s. 6d.; sellers, 77s., being the turn higher, on account of the reduction of the discount by the Bank of England. No. 1, Gartsherrie, 80s.; No. 1, g.m.b., 77s. 6d. to 78s.; No. 3, g.m.b., 76s. to 76s. 6d. Shipments for week ending June 9—Foreign, 6112 tons; coastwise, 6109 tons=12,221 tons. In the corresponding week of 1884 they were—Foreign, 6724 tons; coastwise, 6780 tons=13,504 tons.

LIVERPOOL, JUNE 14.—We have had a fair amount of business in Scotch pig-iron during the week, and prices have still an upward tendency, 77s. 6d. being the last quotation. Manufactured iron is still in good demand, and the late advance in price fully maintained. Tin plates are in better demand, and higher prices have been obtained. No change in other metals.

PARIS, JUNE 15.—The demand for iron continues, but prices have not undergone any material alteration. At St. Didier, the market generally appears favourable, and in some instances orders have been refused, from the fear that a dry summer might limit the production. The Journal de Commerce reports that there is no change in the prices in their market, and that the state of affairs is still satisfactory.

MINES.—We believe it is a well-known fact, that since the publication of the plan of the new Mining Exchange there has been a very great increase in country orders for shares, and also in general mining business, and to such an extent that before long it will be difficult to buy first-class dividend mines to pay more than 10 to 15 per cent.; and the consequence will be a greater demand for shares in good progressive mines, verging on a dividend state. This week the business transacted has been exceedingly large in almost every description of stock, though dividend mines are the greatest favourites.

We have for some years endeavoured, in this article, to lay before our readers the earliest and most reliable intelligence upon mines and mining, as well as the state of the share market, and we have freely foretold, when we considered we were sufficiently justified in doing so, when a rise might be expected in any particular stock. How far we have been correct, we can with confidence refer the curious to the present price list, and to our hints during the last twelve months. We do not mention the subject, however, to take any credit for the past, but to observe that, anticipating the probable increase in share business, and in the interest attaching to mining, we are making such arrangements as will ensure us still further means of obtaining the best and earliest intelligence from every mining district, and make this article still more copious in all matters relating to the share market, and, what is of more importance, the future prospects of the mines.

South Frances shares have further advanced to 525s.; Bassett, 700s. In Wheel Kitty a large business has been done, and shares rose from 40s. to 65s., but left off rather weaker at 60s., when a few sellers appeared; there is a report, but not official, that a dividend of 5s. per share may be expected at the September meeting. Marke Valley, 5s. 5s. to 5s. 10s.; the 70 tons of ore we referred to last week as having been raised in five weeks from the new lode, yields a produce of 10s. per cent., and in a few weeks there will be a dividend of 2s. 6d. per share. Devon Great Consols, 360s. to 365s.; as many parties have expressed surprise at the comparatively small monthly sampling at these mines, we are enabled to state that, owing to the illness of several horses, it was impossible to cart more ores to the quay; the sampling for this month will probably exceed 2000 tons. As the mines are five miles from the quay, and about 2000 tons of ores are monthly carted that distance in wagons holding about 2 tons each, some idea of the traffic and the number of horses employed in it may be formed. Bedford United, 10s. 10s. to 11s. At North Bassett meeting, a dividend of 10s. per share was declared; three months' costs were charged against the produce of two months, otherwise a larger dividend could have been paid; the next will be 15s., if not more. The reserves in the mine were stated to be about 200,000s.; large purchases have been made in shares at 27s., 28s., and 29s. West Bassett, 31s. to 33s.; South Tamar, 6s. 10s. to 6s. 15s.; Tamar Consols, 2s. to 2s. 2s. 6d.; Great South Tamar, 5s. to 6s.; Wheel Edward, 3s. 10s.; Arthur, 13s.; Rosewarne, 207s. 10s. to 212s. 10s.; South Caradon, 310s. to 315s.; Wheel Hender (Huthnance), 2s. 10s. to 3s.; Clifton and Wentworth, owing to a great demand, rose to 17s. 10s., 18s. 10s.; West Frances, 21s. to 23s.; Cwm Daron, 7s. 6d. to 10s.; Vale of Towy, 1s. 5s. to 1s. 7s. 6d.; North Towy, 7s. 6d. to 10s.; Herodafot, 2s. to 2s. 5s.; East Gurnis Lake, 3s. to 3s. 2s. 6d. Orsedd has very much improved, and has made a profit on the last month's work-

ing of 100s. 19s. 7d. There is also a good lode in Pen-y-Gelli. West Alfred Consols, 12s. to 12s. 10s. East Bassett, 50s., in demand, and no sellers; the late improvement in the Wentworth lode at Clifton has increased the prospects of East Bassett. At Grambler meeting, a call of 2s. per share was made. The 24 ft. level, on Richards's lode, is worth 8s. to 10s. per fm. Buller in request, at 460s. to 470s.; Sortridge Consols, 2s. 17s. 6d. to 3s.; West Seton, 205s. to 210s.; West Caradon, 160s., 165s.

When the Mining Exchange is opened, and the present rules are in operation, there will, of course, be many other regulations to frame for the proper carrying out of different transactions, but which it would be needless to refer to now; and it would, we think, have been unwise in the committee to have hampered themselves at starting with the minor details. We believe, however, the public may rest assured they will not be lost sight of. One correspondent of last week suggests a plan, whereby every purchaser may know what price he in reality pays for his shares, a thing, we should imagine, very easily arrived at by any one who employs a respectable broker, bound, if required, to give up the names of his principals. There must, however, in order to establish a market, be brokers, dealers, and jobbers, the latter holding stock, and making net prices either to buy or to sell, for without such parties even the Stock Exchange could not be carried on. Another correspondent complains of the rule which prevents a member from advertising shares for sale, with prices attached. It might be answered here, that no member of the Stock Exchange is allowed to advertise his name, even as a dealer in any particular stock; but the committee of the Mining Exchange have not rested solely on the precedent of the Stock Exchange in this instance, but framed the rule, not "to keep the real price from those desirous of purchasing," but to protect mining from the injury done to it by a false system of advertising, against which loud complaints have been made by large bona fide holders of stock. We have all heard, doubtless, of a sporting character who wagered that he would publicly offer sovereigns for sale on London-bridge at 1s. each, without getting customers; so true is it that the public generally look with distrust and disbelief in the genuineness of anything offered particularly cheap; and thus hundreds of shares in promising mines have been advertised for sale considerably below their market value, with the idea that, by so advertising them, the parties would be able (should correspondents enquire for them) to get them in by pointing to a price, the very publication of which would be sure to alarm many country holders, and make them sellers, without stopping to enquire into the real circumstances. By this means, it is well-known, many shares have been brought from pounds to shillings, and even pence, and many mines of promise entirely suspended.

At West Wheel Seton meeting, a dividend of 5s. per share was declared.

At North Wheel Bassett meeting, on Thursday, the accounts showed—Balance last account, 3453s. 13s.; copper ore sold, 6062s. 4s.; tin and sundries, 59s. 17s. 9d.; sundries, 13s. 9d.; March dividend, 1500s.; labour cost, Feb. March, and April, 2435s. 11s. 7d.; merchants' bills, 1070s. 13s. 3d.; tribute, 436s. 0s. 3d.; royalty, 407s. 7s. 8d.; sundries, 55s. 12s. 6d.; leaving balance in favour of mine, 3691s. 9s. 4d. A dividend of 10s. per share was declared. Capt. Thomas Glanville reported that the new shaft was sunk 5 fms. under the 112, where the lode was 3 ft. wide, intermixed with yellow ore. In the 112 fm. level, west of new shaft, the lode was opening tribute ground; and in the same level east the lode was opening ground that would work at a moderate tribute.

At Wheel Charlotte meeting, on the 9th instant, the accounts showed—Balance last account, 240s. 6s. 8d.; ore sold (less lord's dues, 67s. 16s. 11d.), 1231s. 1s. 3d.; old materials, 3s. 3s. 147s. 10s. 11d.—Mine cost, March, 401s. 17s. 2d.; April, 310s. 7s. 3d.; merchants' bills, 106s. 17s. 5d.; leaving balance in favour of adventurers, 365s. 9s. 1d. A dividend of 10s. per share was declared. Captain Benjamin Gundry and Mr. W. Michell reported that the pitches were all re-set at about the usual tribute. They had about 60 tons of ore broken since the last sampling.

At Carnworthy Mine meeting, on Monday, the accounts for Jan., Feb., and March showed—Balance last account, 1167. 10s. 4d.; ores sold (less dues), 1465s. 7s. 9d.; sundries, 8s. 2s. 1528s. 10s. 1d.—Mine costs and merchants' bills, 1040s. 0s. 4d.; by dividend of 307s. 4s. (3s. per share) leaving in hand, 181s. 5s. 9d.

At Wheel Seton meeting, on Monday, the accounts showed—Balance last account, 1397s. 9s. 6d.; ores sold in March and April (less dues), 3727s. 5s. 4d.; = 5124s. 14s. 10d.—Mine costs and merchants' bills for March and April, 3627s. 10s.; leaving balance to next account, 1496s. 15s. 10d.

At Grambler and St. Aubyn meeting, on Tuesday, the accounts showed—Balance last account, 413s. 10s. 11d.; mine cost and merchants' bills for four months ending April, 1058s. 10s. 3d.; = 1452s. 16s. 4d.—By ores sold (less dues), 435s. 16s. 11d.; call in February, 729s.; leaving balance due to pursers, 287s. 19s. 5d. A call of 2s. per share was made.

At Great Wheel Badden bi-monthly meeting, on Thursday, the accounts showed—Balance last account, 370s. 14s.; black tin sold, 46s. 14s. 11d.; lead, 1015s. 7s. 3d.; tribute, 22s. 10s. 9d.; loan, 130s.; calls, 279s. 13s. = 1865s. 8s. 11d.—By labour cost, March, 395s. 10s. 11d.; April, 362s. 18s. 3d.; May, 363s. 17s. 5d.; merchants' bills, 232s. 15s. 2d.; calls, 319s. 11s. 6d.; dues, 154s. 10s. 10d.; inspection, 31s. 3s.; discounts, 3s. 4s. 3d.; leaving in hand, 100s. 11s. 7d. The balance of liabilities over assets was 966s. 2s. 10d. A call of 2s. per share was made. It was resolved to sell the machinery on the western mine, unless an eligible offer be made to take the set with machinery as it stands; that Capt. Thomas be requested to take the superintendence of the mine, visit it every two months, and report. The arrears of call were stated to be 212s. 17s. Capt. Chas. Thomas reported that the eastern mine could be worked at a profit, but recommended the abandonment of the western ground, and sale of the machinery. A report was submitted from the committee of management, stating that two of them had visited the mine, to make enquiries with a view to more economical working, and, with Capt. Thomas, have made certain suggestions, which, if carried out, they have every confidence that the mine will again, at an early period, be working at a profit.

At Trenow Consols Mine special meeting, on Tuesday (Mr. Maxwell in the chair), it was resolved that, on reconsidering the desire of the pursers to open a bank account, it was recommended that the business of the mine be continued as heretofore, for the following reasons—viz. the saving of interest and commission on money advanced; the necessity of a prompt payment of the call, to repay the pursers the advance made by him for April wages, paid the 2d of June. In reference to the above, a correspondent states that the appointment of a banker would have assisted the pursers, as it would have indemnified him from all further difficulties which he has had to put up with. Capt. John Carthew, John Smith, and Thomas Bennett, report that the prospects have of late much improved. The lode in the 60 and 70, east of engine-shaft, is looking exceedingly well. There is also a great improvement in the 50 west. The tribute pitches through the mine are looking better. A good lode of tin has been discovered at Wheel Pleasant, a few fathoms from surface.

At West Sortridge Consols Mine meeting, on Monday (Mr. J. A. Temple in the chair), the accounts showed—Balance last account, 79s. 14s. 10d.; calls in arrears, 251s. 10s.; call made last meeting, 257s. 10s.; tin sold, 92s. 2s. 8d.; = 707s. 17s. 6d.—Mine cost, March, 165s. 13s. 4d.; April, 171s. 17s. 10d.; merchants' bills, 102s. 12s. 3d.; office expenses, 11s. 15s. 6d.; printing, 6s. 14s.; calls in arrears, 265s. 10s.; leaving balance at bankers, 33s. 15s. 7d. A call of 1s. 6d. per share was made; and Messrs. J. A. Temple, A. Samuel, and J. B. Brechley, appointed the committee of management. Captain John Pryor and Joseph Richards reported that the sinking of the trial shaft on No. 1 lode had been abandoned, the appearances of the lode generally being unsatisfactory. For future work, they recommended the driving of the 10 fm. level east with all possible speed, to develop the apparent course of tin the old miners had in that part of the sett.

At the Poltmore Mining Company meeting, on Wednesday (Mr. Chas. Henegue in the chair), resolutions were passed extending the time for payment of the call to the 30th inst., the holders of 16,575 shares having already responded to it. In the event of all the calls not being paid by the time named the committee were authorised to wind-up the concern, it being agreed that the whole of the call shall be returned. In the mean time the necessary expenses of working the mine are to be defrayed out of the assets in hand, which it was expected would meet all liabilities. The proceedings, which terminated with the usual complimentary votes, are detailed in another column.

At the Rheidol United Mining Company meeting, at Birmingham, on the 8th instant (Mr. E. W. Hand in the chair), the accounts showed—Balance last account, 120s. 16s. 4d.; calls, 424s. 13s. = 545s. 9s. 4d.—Mine cost, March, 214s. 11s. 5d.; April, 254s. 7s. 3d.; leaving in hand, 76s. 10s. 8d. A call of 6d. per share was made. Mr. John Davies, mining engineer, having been employed to inspect the mines, reported that they were situated in a well-known lead district, where operations had been conducted for centuries; the stratum killas, congealed for galena, lodes strong and well defined. There are several lodes, some extensively wrought, and others only partially, but in every case they are metalliferous. The Kurigas lode, he considers, will probably produce a good bunch of lead in 10 fms. below the present level. Nantlles lode is most important, and has, undoubtedly, produced enormous quantities of lead. There are other important lodes in the sett, and, with proper management, he has great confidence in the result of the adventure. Captain W. Spooner reported that in future the merchants' bills will be light, and he had reason to believe that the ore is rich in silver.

At Cefn Gwyn Mining Company meeting, yesterday (Mr. A. C. Edwards in the chair), the accounts showed a balance against the mine of 579s. 17s. 11d. Mr. Joseph, the pursuer, produced the whole of the vouchers, which were carefully examined with the cost-accounts, financial statement, and cash-book, and the accounts were pronounced by the meeting to be correct and admirably kept. Since the last meeting the works have been suspended, and the only cost since that period has been the wages of two men, to watch the mine day and night alternately. Mr. Joseph produced receipts for money advanced by him on behalf of the company to merchants and others to the amount of 161s. 18s. 6d., which sum, he stated, still remained due to him. He had paid these claims in order to save the shareholders from legal proceedings, but he had himself been subjected to continual annoyances; most disgraceful letters had been sent to him, and he had been repeatedly threatened with County Court proceedings. It would be useless to proceed with the mine, and the only course left was to dispose of the machinery; but it would also be necessary to make a call to enable them to pay off their liabilities. A shareholder complained in strong terms of the conduct of the captain (Trevelyan), who had, in his opinion, wilfully deceived them from the commencement. Mr. Smith was also of opinion that the captain had, in plain English, "sold them out." Mr. Joseph said, it was evident that the captain was wrong in his judgment, and that when he found such to be the case he wanted the moral courage to speak out; but he did not think they could prove any act of dishonesty against him; he was too sanguine in his expectations, but he did not believe he had wilfully deceived them. After some discussion, a call of 9d. per share was made, payable forthwith, and to which some of the shareholders present immediately responded, in order to reimburse Mr. Joseph for the advances he had made. Mr. Joseph reported that he knew a party who was willing to take the machinery and materials at a fair valuation, and a resolution was passed authorising him to treat with the parties, and dispose of the same on behalf of the company. The meeting then separated.

At Great Wheel Hugo meeting, on Wednesday (Mr. J. H. Hitchins in the chair), the accounts showed—Calls, 4s. 6d., received, 617s. 1s. 6d.—Mine cost, Oct. to April, 268s. 14s. 9d.; merchants' bills, 347s. 10s. 6d.; leaving balance in favour of adventurers, 16s. 3d. A call of 2s. per share was made. Capt. Ambrose Barratt reported that they had gone through a branch from 4 to 5 in. wide, containing spots of solid lead, most likely in connection with the main lode to the south, which he recommended to drive to cut at the present depth. He hoped the time was not far distant when he would have to report a good and lasting mine. The engine worked well.

At Cwmyle Rock and Green Lake Copper Company meeting, on Monday (Mr. B. L. Sowell in the chair), the accounts showed a balance in favour of the mine of 70s. 2s. 1d. An interesting report from Capt. Jehu Hitchins was read. The committee of management and auditor were re-elected, and the proceedings, which are detailed in another column, terminated with the usual complimentary votes.

At North Wheel Damall meeting, on Tuesday, at the office, Old Broad-street, much dissatisfaction was expressed that the auctioneer—although aware of twelve months having elapsed since the sale of materials and machinery at the mine, with a view to winding-up the affairs of the company, as regards that mine—had not yet rendered an account, and which neglect prevented a settlement. The new sett, Lower Treawthen, being deemed of a highly promising character, instructions were given to open on the lodes already discovered therein, preparatory to more vigorous working. In the absence of Mr. Prior, and to obtain in the mean time the auctioneer's account, it was agreed to adjourn the meeting to 12th July next.

At the Tees Side Mine meeting, on the 8th inst. (Mr. J. J. Reynolds in the chair), the accounts showed—Balance last account, 40s. 11s. 11d.; labour cost, Jan., 154s. 5s. 9d.; Feb., 242s. 17s. 8d.; March, 89s.; April, 72s. 4s. 10d. = 559s. 14s. 14s. By calls, 584s. 9s.; leaving balance against mine, 51s. 2s. 1d. The balance of assets (including land ore ready for sale) over liabilities was 4s. 7s. 6d. A call of 6d. per share was made; and it was resolved that all shares in arrears be forfeited, the pursers being empowered to restore them in a month, on paying a forfeit of 10 per cent. Capt. Walton was appointed agent, in the place of Mr. Colliam. Capt. Staples and Mr. Woodmass were appointed on the committee, in the place of Messrs. Parker and Wood, resigned. Capt. Walton reported that the lode in the new level, at first only a string, had proved a strong vein, with lead ore, fluor-spar, &c., worth two bags of ore per fathom. The ore will soon be ready for market.

At Alpha United Mine meeting, on Tuesday, the secretary reported that the calls received amounted to 28s. 7s. 6d., leaving a balance against the adventurers of 239s. 3s. 7d. A call of 1s. per share was made. The meeting was afterwards made special, and 1415 shares in arrears of call declared forfeited, the secretary being authorised to restore the shares in the event of the calls being paid within a fortnight.

At Merilyn Mine meeting, on Wednesday, Mr. Wm. Ramsden's report was read, and a call of 3s. per share was made.

At East Alfred Consols meeting, on Tuesday (Mr. W. Lemon Oliver in the chair), the forfeiture of 256 shares, on which the arrears of call amounted to 131s. 7s. 6d., was absolutely confirmed, and the committee was authorised to dispose of them, to the best of their judgment, for the benefit of the shareholders. A report from Capt. Vivian, dated the 7th inst., was read, stating that the adit end west, on Polkinghorne's lode, was much improved, 2 1/2 ft. wide, very kindly, with fine stones of copper ore. A very strong opinion prevails that this is the West Alfred lode, and great hopes are entertained of the result. Mr. Calvert, who was present, was then requested to state more fully his views upon the auriferous character of the several ores and minerals raised from the mine, and he stated that he had no doubt all the ores were auriferous. There were many quartz veins containing gold, as also auriferous iron and copper pyrites; the stuff from some of the lodes was very similar to what he had seen treated successfully for gold in Germany. He had no hesitation in saying that he could work several of the lodes to a good profit for gold. He did not wish to make these trials a source of profit to himself; he was most anxious to see the question at rest, as to the obtaining in this country of gold at a profit; and his travelling expenses paid, he should leave the rest to the result. It was at length decided unanimously that two furnaces (a calciner and a melting furnace) should be immediately erected at the mine; that on their completion, in about a fortnight, Mr. Calvert should proceed to Cornwall, and carefully operate on as much mineral as he could select as he could get through in a week (estimated at 4 or 5 tons), and that his further remuneration should be left to the shareholders, who would be guided by the result. In about six weeks, therefore, this interesting question, at this mine at least, may be expected to be settled. The test of the experiment is estimated under 1000s.; and Mr. Calvert appears very sanguine on the subject, he having in the former assays obtained gold from every trial, from 13 grs. to 1 oz. 17 grs. 5 grs. to the ton, and from the vein stones of silver-lead and sulphur of iron 16 ozs. 15 drs. of gold to the ton of mineral.

Foxdale, Laxey, Vale of Towy, Maesyrwddu, Coetia Llys, Talacres Bodlewyddan, Holywell Level, Orsedd, Brynford Hall, Brynwgol, Speedwell, Chalk Castle, Rhoswyddol, Dyffryn, and Bwlch Consols, have sold lead ore.

Great Polgoth and West Wheel Towan have sold black tin.

Tees Side and Nether Heath Lead Mines have sold lead ore this week.

At Retallack United Mines, an excellent discovery of tin has been made by a party of tributers, three in number, who, according to present prospects, at a tribute of 5s. in 1s., will earn at least 30s. per man for the present take of one month. The first parcel of tin is now preparing for sale, and it is expected they will sell not less than 4 tons on the 30th inst., which is estimated to

Notices to Correspondents.

•• Much inconvenience having arisen in consequence of several of the Numbers during the past year being out of print, we recommend that the Journal should be regularly filed on receipt: it then forms an accumulating useful work of reference.

THE POSTAGE STAMP.—On the new measure, repealing the compulsory stamping of newspapers, becoming law, we do not intend to avail ourselves of the fancied benefit it may at first be supposed to confer, as we shall continue the stamp on the Journal, which we conceive will prove for the convenience of our readers generally. Very many subscribers having their papers sent direct to their residences in different parts, and others taking copies in connection with some London office or friend, the printing on unstamped paper would, besides the inconvenience, entail a charge of one penny each time of going through the post, while continuing our present plan will enable the Journal to be transmitted as frequently as may be required during fifteen days: particular care always being taken that the stamp is so placed that it may be readily seen at the post-office. Also, as we contemplate leaving Supplemental Sheets pretty frequently, stamping the Journal will also eventually prove an economical arrangement for our readers.

MINING EXCHANGE.—Sir: Both for my own sake and my clients, I rejoice in the proposed establishment of the New Mining Exchange, and I anticipate great benefits from it to the mining public. It must, however, be borne in mind that everything will depend upon the mode in which the institution is conducted, and the privilege of admission to brokers and others conceded. Unless membership is felt in the commercial world to be a guarantee for honesty and fair dealing, the establishment will fall to the ground from want of support. I do not mean that past embarrassments, for instance, should be a bar to admission; but any complaint of bad faith, or unbusinesslike conduct in buying and selling (whether previous or subsequent to a broker's admission to the Exchange), must be thoroughly investigated, and, if substantiated, form an insuperable bar to the admission or continuance of any member labouring under such an imputation. To my certain knowledge, the sincerity and faithfulness of the acting committee will be thus put to a severe test before many weeks are passed away; and, by the mode in which they deal with these questions will they stand or fall in public estimation. —*LEX: Bedford-row, June 14.*

R. L. S.—Our correspondent does not say what description of ores he alludes to: we can only suppose them to be copper. It is generally the higher qualities of ore which are reduced to a regulus, and that is done by calcination. Poor ore, containing large quantities of earthy matter and iron, would, we expect, not pay for any such operation, and are valuable for mixing with richer ores in the process of smelting.

DALRYMPLE MINING COMPANY.—This association was merged into the Dalcarril Silver-Lead Mining Company, now about to be wound-up. The directors were Messrs. W. Blanchard Jerrold, Stephen Neal, John Bethel, James Griffin, and Conrad Montgomery. The secretary was Mr. William Yates Freebody, C.E., of Duke-street, West-lancaster. The offices of the present association are in Cannon-street.

ANGLO-CALIFORNIA MINING COMPANY.—Sir: I agree with an "Original Allottee," that the whole of Sir H. Huntley's estimates have turned out fallacious; and the best thing the shareholders can do is to demand his immediate recall, and that arrangements be made with the remainder of the staff for a reduction of salary, and to allow them, as an equivalent, a percentage on what the company may make, thus giving them a direct interest in doing their best to develop the mine. If this is done, I think there would be no difficulty in getting out the preference shares among the proprietors, as I believe they have lost all confidence in Sir H. Huntley and his reports. I would suggest that the new shares should be issued on condition of 5s. being paid on allotment, and the remainder in two monthly instalments of 2s. 6d. each; this, I expect, would enable many shareholders to subscribe who are not able to pay in full on allotment.—*A SHAREHOLDER OF TWO YEARS' STAND-ING: Liverpool, June 11.*

ANGLO-CALIFORNIA GOLD MINING COMPANY.—Sir: The remarks of "An Original Allottee," as well as your observations, have perused with great interest. It is a pity that the shareholders, by their apathy, should jeopardise the prospects of the company; yet, on the other hand, it must be taken into consideration that unless a more careful supervision is exercised, and an economical management introduced, we shall still be pandered only to extravagance, improvidence, and recklessness. To use a now hackneyed expression, which is as familiar as household words, we have long wanted here "the right man in the right place." Let shareholders and directors see that we have no longer the wrong one, and then there is every hope that a change for the better will take place. —*B. P.: Lincoln.*

LEAD SMELTING.—We expect to publish, in next week's Journal, an illustrated description of a Double Reverberatory Furnace, which the inventor ("C. J. R.") has proved capable of effecting a saving of 50 per cent. in fuel over that of the best constructed furnaces in Europe; at the same time, he guarantees the general loss in smelting not to exceed 5 per cent.

NANT-AU-NEILLE MINING COMPANY.—Sir: I find by your Journal that the number of Nant-au-Neille shares is stated to be 2500. The alteration was not sanctioned by the majority of the holders, and they were accordingly reduced to the original number, 64. As the representative of more than half the shares, I shall feel obliged by your informing me by whom the second alteration was ordered.—*HEAVY W. BUCK: Woodbridge, June 11.* (We were requested by Mr. R. Tredinick to place Nant-au-Neille in its present form in our Share List, who assured us there had been some extensive dealings in them, as altered.)

"A DIGGER" (Calaveras).—The Carson's Creek Company may now be said to be nearly defunct; nearly all the gold mining associations projected in London have failed, and the few that are surviving are merely dragging on a wretched and miserable existence. The system of combining half-a-dozen claims to suit the vendors' purpose, and send them into market to deceive the unsuspicious capitalist, ought not to be tolerated. For a considerable period gold mining adventures in California will be regarded with distrust by the speculating public. The prominent elements have been Yankee knavery, London gullibility, and British incompetency.

NORTH BRITISH AUSTRALIAN MINING COMPANY.—The first instalment of the dividend will be payable this month. An abstract of the report and accounts appeared in our Journal of the 14th of April last. The balance in hand, at the close of the year, was 10,475l. 3s. 3d. The dividend declared was at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum; but the net profit on the last year's operations was 7 per cent.

MIZEN HEAD MINING COMPANY.—Sir: As a constant reader of your valuable Journal, I agree (and the opinion is pretty general here) in the suggestion of "One who has Paid his Calls," in your last Journal, about the shares in the Mizen Head Mining Company,—that is, of issuing preference shares at 15 to 20 per cent. interest, to be first paid to those who have paid up their calls. Anything would be better than attempting to sell the lease and mine, thus break up a valuable property, and really then get nothing.—*ALSO PAID-UP SHAREHOLDER: Dublin, June 13.*

IRISH CONSOLS MINING COMPANY.—"An Old Subscriber."—It is at length determined to wind-up this company in the Court of Chancery.

CLARENCE CONSOLIDATED MINING COMPANY OF JAMAICA.—"A. Z." (Dublin).—The company is officially quoted in the Stock Exchange List. The prospectus was never verified, the shares being allotted privately. The reason assigned by the directors for not verifying the reports is a wish to prevent the public being deceived by any extraordinary claims in the shares, which, unfortunately in Jamaica mining companies, have recently been the case. Mr. Lohr (the secretary) will give every information to our correspondent, upon proving that he is a shareholder.

DEVON TIN MINES.—"A. Z."—The offices of the company are removed to Barge-yard Chambers. Mr. Nutey (the secretary) will give you the information required.

GREAT POLGOOTH MINE.—Sir: As a shareholder in this mine, I am, of course, interested in the sales of produce therefrom. May I, therefore, enquire why you have lately omitted giving the prices obtained for our black tin, and also the names of the purchasers? We hear of such strange things happening in connection with mining, at times, that the least irregularity is calculated to startle us. I must not, I suppose, doubt the fact of such sales having really taken place?—*E.: June 14.*—[We print the particulars as forwarded from the office. Though the fact of the sales having been made cannot be doubted, it would certainly be more satisfactory if the returns were rendered perfect, by adding the required particulars.]

THE GOLD QUESTION.—The insertion of Mr. Calvert's reply to Mr. Evan Hopkins's letter, in last week's Journal, would not at all further the original objects of the discussion, which has already become so personal a nature; and as the resolutions of the East Alfred Consols meeting will afford Mr. Calvert an opportunity of proving the efficiency of his machinery, and also his skill as a gold miner, there is the less necessity of continuing the correspondence. We shall be glad, however, to hear from Mr. Calvert, and to record every detail respecting his proceedings and management at East Alfred Consols.

BRITANNIA COPPER MINE.—It is expected that the amount realised by the sale of the plant will be sufficient to pay off all liabilities.

"Dresser" (Aberystwith).—Although it is desirable that ores should be brought to a high percentage, this should not be done at a sacrifice, and in all cases where the amount of labour is above the value of the ore, it is folly to pursue such a wasteful course. In this case, probably the reason was that the high percentage should influence the shares in the London market. Such practices as these deserve the greatest reprobation, and wherever discovered should be exposed, and, if possible, the perpetrators punished.

MINING IN FRANCE.—Sir: Your Journal of May 26 contains an interesting account of the progress of mining in France during the last 13 or 14 years, by Mr. H. B. Luck, read at the Statistical Society. Will that gentleman, or any other reader, inform me, through your Journal, the districts where the copper mines are situated, with any further information relative to the other mining districts? As I propose taking a tour through France shortly, and should much like to examine the geology of some of the mineral districts in that country, so as to report on the same through your Journal.—*A CONSTANT READER: Exeter, June 12.*

IMPROVED LOCOMOTIVE ENGINES.—Sir: In the particulars of the new locomotives, carriages, and trucks, constructing for this railway, forwarded for your last Journal, there was a mis-statement: the gross load was 445 tons, as stated, the net weight of ore 275 tons, and cost 2½d. per ton per 28 miles.—*G. TOWN: Maryport and Carlisle Railway, June 12.*

ADELAIDE LAND AND GOLD COMPANY.—Sir: Perceiving a letter in your last Journal from "A Shareholder, who has inspected the Books," allow me, in reply, to enquire if he is not the secretary, or some other paid official, in disguise? I have only to say, that since I wrote I have disposed of all my shares—Thanking Heaven for being able to do so—at 9s. each. If "A Shareholder, who has inspected the Books," is a bona fide shareholder, he has my pity, if he thinks he has gained from them anything relating to the real position of this abortion. When called upon to pay part of the Australian liabilities, of which the books show nothing, he will, perhaps, not be so angry at another proprietor.—*A LATE SHAREHOLDER, who also "INSPECTED THE BOOKS."*

ADELAIDE LAND AND GOLD COMPANY.—"E. E." as a female shareholder, who cannot inspect the books, would feel greatly obliged to "A Shareholder, who has inspected the Books," for any information in his possession; if by letter, perhaps he will be kind enough to address it, Post-office, Bolton, Lancashire. "E. E." has recently disposed of 250 shares (bought at 2½d.) at 7s. each, and still holds a large number. "E. E." has received three anonymous letters in the form of circulars, containing very strange warnings of the liabilities incurred by shareholders in this company.

C. W. P. (Hoxton).—The Modum Cobalt-Works, near Drammen, in Norway, were offered for sale about six years since, on account of the bankruptcy of Consul-General G. Wegner, the late proprietor. They have been subsequently worked. The impression in the county was, that they were mortgaged to the firm of Messrs. Goodhall and Reeves.

We have particularly to request that subscribers and others, in paying accounts, will send cheques or post-office orders, as postage-stamps cannot be received.

PERPETUAL MOTION.—Sir: I do not wish to damp the ardour of your correspondent, or to throw cold water upon his ideas and inductions with regard to this subject, as even the great mathematician, Sir Isaac Newton, did, in the beginning of his career, believe in the possibility of perpetual motion, and even attempted himself to solve the problem. All mechanical efforts, however, even if they are directed to an unattainable object, cannot fail of being instructive, and of gradually initiating the experimentalist into the solid truths of the realities of science; but I strongly recommend your correspondent to pursue some other object more worthy of his attention than the visionary effort to obtain perpetual motion. It has drawn forth more satire than would fill a moderately-sized volume, and one intelligent critic and commentator on this very interesting question has likened the seeker after this hidden treasure to one who, having taken a seat in a clothes-basket, expects, by the direct application of his muscular efforts to the handles thereof, to lift himself to any desirable altitude in the air. If ever the Board of Longitude did really offer a prize for the successful realisation of the object under discussion, they must have been as wooden-headed as several branches of the Administration are at the present time.—*ELECTRICIAN: June 14.*

THE WAR.—Sir: I have felt considerable interest in perusing an article which appeared in your last Number, headed the "War," from which it appears that your old and well-known correspondent, Mr. Isham Bagge, has devised and matured certain plans for inflicting a heavy loss upon the Russian interest, and acquiring, at an expense of merely 20,000l., an enormous amount of the enemy's treasure. I now beg to say that if the inventor will undertake to adhere to his proposition, as set forth in your Journal, and will submit his views to a committee of enquiry, composed of scientific men, prior to the expenditure of any capital, I am quite ready, provided such plans should meet their approval in every respect, and that they are proved to be well founded, and capable, moreover, of offering a fair prospect of remuneration to the contributors, to enter into the project to the extent of 2000l. or 2500l. on fair and equitable grounds, to be hereafter decided. I shall be glad to learn, through your Journal, whether any other gentleman is willing to co-operate with me in joining the inventor upon a similar footing. I beg to enclose my card, and shall feel obliged by your inserting this letter in your valuable Journal.—*W.: Liverpool, June 14.*

THE WAR.—Sir: Is the invention referred to in the *Mining Journal* of the 9th inst. necessarily involved for the present in complete secrecy, or will the inventor, Mr. Isham Bagge, be kind enough to give myself, and others of your readers, some little insight into the nature of his views. Having read many of his communications on various matters of science, I cannot but regard him as a practical man; and should be proud myself to be as successful in the present as in past instances, I have little doubt but that a great result may be obtained at a very moderate outlay. My own opinion is, that there would be no difficulty in forming a private company for carrying his views into immediate operation; but I think that some further details should, if possible, and with safety to the inventor, be given in the first instance.—*G. R. STANLEY: Bristol, June 14.*—[We are not prepared to publish the details of this invention, but we will be glad to receive the inventor's views in detail to the consideration of a committee, composed of men of acknowledged science and reputation, prior to the outlay of any money whatever. We are unable to say, however, whether our correspondent is willing to go into further particulars in print.]

MINING IN IRELAND.—The statement of an "Old Subscriber," though, indeed, a grievous detail, is hardly a matter for comment in our Journal. The solicitor of the company could certainly remove the difficulties in which the parties appear to be so annoyingly placed.

IRISH CONSOLS MINING COMPANY.—Sir: May I make the enquiry, whether it is usual for the shareholders of a company to receive an account of the proceedings which take place at their meetings? My reason for asking is, I am rather a large shareholder in the Irish Consols Mining Company, and have lately received several summonses to attend "meetings" and "adjourned meetings" in London: being a resident here, I could not attend, and I have not heard anything of the proceedings which took place. If the directors were disposed to be straightforward in conducting the affairs which were confided to them, they could not have any reason for withholding the minutes of the proceedings from those interested—those who, by subscribing to the company, expected their affairs would have been conducted with every regard for honour and honesty. The shareholders were summoned to attend an adjourned meeting, on the 7th inst., "to transact important business;" but what the important business was we have not heard. As the directors are so evidently disposed to keep the shareholders in the dark, we may be somewhat enlightened about their proceedings by applying to Mr. Macdonell.—*A SHAREHOLDER: Dublin, June 13.*

TARLOWETH.—A shareholder complains that although this mine for a considerable period has sold ore, no dividends have been declared, and the proprietary are receiving constant applications for calls; he likewise regrets the paucity of information, and requires that greater publicity should be given both to the accounts and reports. If our correspondent will apply at the office he will, no doubt, receive all the information he requires. On all occasions we have found Mr. Cole, the secretary, willing to afford every elucidation which has been necessary.

MINING IN NORTH WALES.—A correspondent, "E. E. E." having perused the article by Mr. C. Downey, on "Mining in North Wales," in the *Mining Journal* of the 2d inst., wishes to know if the writer is a practical miner, and in what district he was educated, as he considers his observations on the remoteness and mismanagement of the mine mentioned highly uncalled for, and out of place. The superintending agent was Mr. Buckingham, from Cornwall, considered one of the most experienced men of his day, and whose name, he states, will be respected in North Wales when the writer of the article in question is forgotten. He will, however, look with interest for his next communication, particularly on the slate formation in Wales; and, in the meantime, he throws out these suggestions, in the hopes that Captain Matthew Francis, Mr. Evan Hopkins, or some other competent miner, will follow up the observations which he has commenced with.

AUSTRALIAN FREEHOLD GOLD COMPANY.—Sir: Can you inform me the state of the proceedings in this company, and whether the balance in hand is to be swallowed up by the rapacity of lawyers and accountants? I have heard of the Court of Chancery and the Winding-up Act; but I believe in no instance have the affairs of any company yet terminated under that process.—*H.: Camden-town, June 13.*

"A Shareholder."—Returning charges are the cost which the smelter deducts for the expenses of obtaining the copper in a metallic state from the ore, and has long been taken at 12s. 10s. per ton. With respect to the standard, our correspondent's figures are evidently incorrect. An ore of such produce would, at the present price of copper, be worth only about 9s. per ton. There is so much mystery about the real nature of this imaginary representative of the value of the copper existing in the ore, called the "standard," and such absence of all information by what calculations the smelters arrive at it, that we must decline pledging ourselves to any particular rule as correct. We must content ourselves by referring our correspondents to the theory as laid down by Mr. John Budge, in the *Mining Journal* of Feb. 14, 1846; and another explanation, by "G. B.," in the Number for June 19, 1847.

COMMERCIAL NEWSPAPER PRESS.

The following Parliamentary Return shows the number of Stamps issued to the respective Newspapers for the year 1854:—

MINING JOURNAL	189,500
HERAPATH'S JOURNAL	97,500
RAILWAY TIMES	72,000
RAILWAY RECORD	17,375
RAILWAY GAZETTE	5,000
LONDON COMMERCIAL RECORD	59,000
JOURNAL OF COMMERCE	33,000
LONDON MERCANTILE JOURNAL	16,000

THE MINING JOURNAL
Railway and Commercial Gazette.

LONDON, JUNE 16, 1855.

We believe that we may announce with confidence that the bill recently introduced into the House of Commons, for rating mines of every description in Great Britain, which has been the subject of so much discussion and animadversion in the columns of this Journal, has been, or is intended to be, withdrawn. We were prepared for such a result from the observations which lately fell from Mr. ROBERTS and Mr. KENDALL, two of the Cornish Members, at the annual dinner, at Liskeard, of the East Cornwall Agricultural Society. They assured the gentlemen present that the promoters of the measure had merely in view the rating of royalties, rents, and dues, and had no idea of rating profits in any way. While they acknowledged their anxiety, on the part of the agricultural interest, to take care of the ratepayer, they declared that they were not forgetful how deeply Cornwall was indebted to those who spent their capital in mining, and that it would be an act of injustice to impose a burthen on them which they had not anticipated.

We may, therefore, fairly enquire why, then, did the promoters alarm the mining community by introducing a bill which it is now conceded would, had it become law, clearly have had the effect of rating the gross profits of mines, in addition to the royalties? This apprehension was still further increased by a declaration on the face of the bill that it was proposed to rate metallic mines in the same way as coal mines, which clearly must include profits as well as dues, and which would, at all events, have opened a fertile field for litigation. Similar declarations were expressed by the same honourable Members at the annual meeting of the Trigg Agricultural Society, subsequently held at Bodmin, and they announced their intention, on their return to London, to make the frame of the bill, and its anticipated operation, matter for future deliberative consideration.

The withdrawal of the bill, we have reason to suspect, has been the result of conference accordingly held in London with Mr. COLLIER, and other Members of Parliament who feel an interest in mineral property, and the success of mining adventures. The mining interest is mainly indebted to the exertions of the press for defeating an ill-considered and ill-advised attempt at legislation, and we take credit to ourselves for the decided and earnest tone which we assumed in our opposition. As, however, all idea of legislation is not abandoned, it behoves those who feel interested in the

progress and advancement of mining enterprise to be peculiarly watchful. The Government and Poor Law authorities have long evinced a disposition to transplant into England the injustice which they have perpetrated in Ireland, and to rate to the support of the poor both royalties and profits. We understand that the promoters of the bill thus recently withdrawn contemplate the introduction of another during the present session, expressly making the amount of dues or royalties reserved or made payable the fixed measure of value for rating, and rating mines accordingly. In this bill it is, we learn, intended to propose that the rate to be thus estimated, and to be payable in respect of all existing contracts and leases, should be borne equally by the landlord and by the miner, giving the miner, we presume, the power of deducting the landlord's proportion from the royalty. Supposing the royalty to be thus a fifteenth, a tenth of a fifteenth would then be the entire rate, to be paid in the same proportions by the payer and the receiver.

Although opposed in principle to any interference with the law which has existed for upwards of three centuries, a bill framed to carry out this modified system of rating, and clearly defining rights and liabilities, would be far preferable to the measure recently withdrawn, and may, perhaps, be a prudent compromise, in order to prevent the introduction of a substantive bill by the Poor Law authorities. We confess we should feel rather uneasy at seeing the mineral property of England handed over and placed at the mercy of the public officials who, sitting at Somerset House, profess to govern all the boards of Poor Law Guardians throughout the kingdom. The mode of rating above referred to, and which we apprehend will be speedily embodied in the new bill to be introduced, will, it is believed, only apply to existing leases, leaving parties to provide for the rates in all future contracts. The law will probably empower the miner in every instance to deduct the landlord's proportion of any of whatever rate he pays, and, of course, in all future contracts the miner will take care, if the landlord is to be altogether exempt, to make the rate he is to pay an element in estimating the amount of the royalty that is to be reserved.

If this measure should become law during the present session of Parliament, we cannot avoid expressing a hope that Ireland will not be forgotten. It is an avowed injustice that mines of every description should now be rated to the poor in Ireland, while all mines in Great Britain, except coal mines, are exempt. If the law, so far as Great Britain is concerned, be altered by a special legislative measure, confining the rating of all mines to the amount of rent, royalty, or dues payable, taking that standard of value as the maximum limit of liability, it will be clearly perpetuating a grievous injustice to continue the present system of rating on profits as well as on dues on all mines in the sister island. The intention which we have thus been the first to give will be quite sufficient to put parties on their guard, and ample time will now be afforded to consider attentively what the probable effect would be of a measure of which the foregoing may be treated as an outline.

The state of public business in the House of Commons has afforded ample time to the public to consider the provisions of the two Government measures for limiting liability in joint-stock associations, and for enabling parties to lend their money on the principle of participating in the profits, without incurring the legal liability of being treated as partners. Although rumours are still afloat that both bills are to be withdrawn, it may be assumed from the statement of Mr. BOUVIER, who represents in the House of Commons the department of the administration which regulates matters of trade, that it is intended to legislate on the subject during the present session. We have stated at length, in former Numbers of our Journal, grave objections to both measures, in the shape in which they have been introduced; but still we feel it to be our duty, as strenuous advocates of rational progress, to sustain the principles of both bills, and to render them, if possible, more consonant to the spirit of the times and the requirements of the country.

Both bills have been evidently designed by the present Board of Trade to stand or fall together. The one which seeks to substitute a general legalisation of limited liability in registered companies, for the former system of incorporation by charter is the most prominent, and stands first in order. The provision that the shares in such companies should not be less than 25l. each, and that 20,000l. of the subscribed capital should be paid up, has been received with marked disapproval by those who have taken a leading part in urging the removal of restrictions on trade. The advocates of limited liability oppose it as still too restrictive, and as tending to defeat one of the great objects proposed—the formation of joint-stock associations for a variety of useful and practical purposes by persons of small capital. The opponents of the abstract principle of limited liability, on the other hand, apprehend that the clause as it stands will be evaded by the creation of shares of a nominal amount, and that devices will be adopted to defeat the direction as to the amount of paid-up capital.

The enactment fixing so high a statutable minimum as that which the bill proposes is intended, of course, to satisfy the scruples of aristocratic legislators, while we, on the other hand, insist that undertakings with shares far more limited in amount, and with much less capital, are those which most require a fostering hand, liberalising the existing law of partnership. A great measure of this kind ought to be framed without respect to classes, leaving the opulent and the oligarchical to fix the amount of shares in companies which they choose to patronise, and conceding a similar privilege, and a lower standard, to the humbler and more industrious, who may choose to associate and form companies more suited to their means and to their requirements.

We perceive that it was stated in the City Article of the *Times* of Wednesday, that Mr. COLLIER, the Member for Plymouth, who successfully carried in the House of Commons during the last session the resolution which has forced the Government to introduce these bills, intended to propose an amendment, reducing the amount of shares contemplated by the bill from 25l. to 5l. We have not, however, been able to find in the Parliamentary Papers any such notice, so we are induced to believe that the intimation was at least premature. Although strong objections will probably be urged to the fixing of any standard, we suspect that some limit will be selected, and if we might venture a surmise, we would not be surprised if 10l. shares were named as the minimum; if 10,000l. was declared to be the lowest amount of capital; and if the law were in order to entitle the company to the privilege of limited liability, to require as a condition precedent to registration, that 5l. was to be paid up on every share. We are conscious that it will be difficult to please every party, but in the existing conflict of interests and opinions, it is clear that concessions must be made, and such a compromise as we have suggested would not, perhaps, taking all matters into consideration, be unreasonable or unlikely. Assuming the bill to be passed in this altered form, it by no means follows that its remedial operation may not be further extended in a future session, and the realisation of its anticipated advantages will furnish strong grounds for modifying its provisions, so as to embrace other classes of joint-stock associations not at present within its contemplation.

We stated, in a former Journal, strong objections, not to the principle, but to the frame of the second Government measure, which professes to encourage ingenious or scientific men without capital, by enabling them to borrow on contracts, securing to the lender a participation in profits, without his incurring the responsibilities to be apprehended from the existing Law of Partnership. The registration clauses of the bill as it stands, however, completely neutralise the benefits which it was intended to confer, by exposing to the trading community the pecuniary circumstances of the borrower, and proclaiming his difficulties; the necessary result of which must be to deter other parties from dealing on equal terms with a person so circumstanced. Many suggestions have been thrown out in reference to improvements in this bill, and we freely concede that some plan must be devised for distinguishing lenders of the description it intends to legalise from ordinary creditors; but we would propose to effect that object without inflicting serious injury to the position and credit of the borrower. A remedy may, perhaps, be provided for every apprehended evil, by introducing into the security itself a special proviso that the money was lent in pursuance of and subject to the provisions of the Act, and thus in the priority intended to be conferred by the bill on ordinary creditors, in case of failure, may be sufficiently secured. We learn with satisfaction that Mr. CAIRNS, of the Equity Bar, who is also Member for Belfast, has given notice of his intention of moving in committee that those objectionable provisions should be altogether expunged from the bill. If Mr. CAIRNS's amendment should be carried, the bill will be reduced into very brief limits, and be much simplified, both in its enactments and in its operation. Whatever may be the result of his propositions, it must be evident that both measures afford ample materials for animated discussion, and very grave deliberation; while we declare ourselves still to be, what we have ever been, strenuous advocates of measures which have at least for their avowed object a design to liberalise the Law of Partnership, we must acknowledge that prejudices are to be overcome, and the

hostility of class interests to be reconciled; concurring, as we do, in the principles which these two bills affirm, we trust that concessions will be made, so as to enable both measures, modified in the way which we suggest, to become law during the present session.

The COAL MINES INSPECTION BILL, which upon its introduction during the present session formed the subject of some severe comments in this Journal, has been, we perceive, to a certain degree remodelled. Opposition was, of course, to be anticipated from the great coal proprietors to any system of legislation which would tend to impose on them a strictly defined legal obligation to make proper provision for the lives of those whom they employ, but we predicted that the operative coal miners would not be inactive in the assertion of their rights. A deputation from that body in the northern coal districts has accordingly arrived in London, and we refer for a detail of their proceedings to a letter, which appears in another column, from the four parties whom they selected as their representatives. It will be at once observed that the bill, in its original shape, was not agreeable either to the coalowners or to the colliers, and in a conflict of interests and of opinions the aristocratic leanings of the present Ministry Government were much to be apprehended. We have learned with surprise that, pending negotiations, the bill was on Thursday night unexpectedly hurried through committee: it will, of course, be reprinted, and we shall then have a full opportunity of reconsidering its details.

When we reviewed the bill as originally introduced, we pointed out striking defects and omissions; some of these, we regret to find, there does not appear any disposition on the part of those in authority to remedy. We have now before us the bill as it was proposed to be modified, and we fear we can observe in its alterations a deliberate design evinced to neutralise some of its original most salutary provisions. The voice of the country had been strongly expressed in favour of an enactment that should stipulate for and secure adequate artificial means of ventilation in every coal mine. There were words accordingly introduced into the bill, which, although perhaps not such as we should desire, tended towards that object; but we apprehend that Sir GEORGE GREY has been cajoled or influenced to consent to an alteration in the phraseology, so as to render the clause altogether in effect abortive.

The bill, as originally framed, provided for a series of special rules, as well to regulate the working of the colliery, as the conduct of those employed in it, and it was proposed to vest in the inspectors some control in the approval of those rules, with a power of appeal to the Secretary of State in case of difference. It is scarcely credible that, with the long catalogue of fatal instances of mismanagement before their eyes, the Government can be induced, by the secret representations of oligarchical coalowners, to exclude all rules for the working of collieries because they would affect the proprietors, and to prohibit the inspectors from any power of interference whatever. Is it intended that the inspectors shall be highly salaried by the State, to be in future mere servants of the coalowners, for the sole purpose of inflicting penalties upon the men, and of conniving at every misfeasance on the part of the employers? In the hope that the inspectors will not suffer themselves to be treated as mere cyphers, we desire to see the clause restored to its original form, otherwise fair grounds will be afforded for enquiring where is the necessity for inspectors, when the law which secures them their salaries divests them of any power of controlling the working of the collieries which they are paid for inspecting?

The deputies of the workmen have proposed some important amendments, and as the frightful catastrophes which form such a reproach to the country fall upon, and have in some instances almost decimated, the working colliers, it is incumbent on the Government, and the imperative duty of the Legislature, to pay the deepest attention to the remonstrances of the class whom this bill affects to protect from future peril. The following are amongst the most striking amendments thus recommended:—

IV. Under the head, general rules. No. 1 rule. Adequate artificial means of ventilation shall be provided, so that there be at all times a sufficient current of air through the workings to dilute, and render harmless, all noxious gases ordinarily given off by the mine.

That the following be added to the general rules:—A copy of every notice by the inspector to the owner of every mine, or his agent of any mine, or any portions of such mine, being dangerous or defective, shall be posted by the owner, or his agent, along with the other general and special rules, in writing. Such notice to remain posted until the inspector shall order its removal.

VI. The following to be added:—That the said code of rules shall, in addition to being put in the colliery office, be put up on the pit bank, and that the agent shall read the same to the workmen at stated periods not exceeding an interval of two months, and all additional workmen, when engaged, shall have the said rules read to them.

VII. Provided always, that when any inspector sends notice to any such owner or Secretary of State of the danger then existing, any workman may absent himself from working in such dangerous places, without being liable to be charged with a breach of contract.

We have on former occasions complained of the strange anomaly in the existing law, which alone required a return of fatal cases, terminating in death, the results of accidents occurring in collieries, and treated as beneath notice the many instances of human beings maimed, mutilated, and deprived of sight. We have also repeatedly remonstrated on the imperfect nature of the coroner system, and exposed the disgraceful constitution of juries at inquests. We regret, however, to find that no attempt is made in the present bill to introduce any improvements. Amendments, by way of additions, have been proposed to certain clauses, which clearly appear objectionable, save that they may be too limited, and not sufficiently precise. We give them, however, in the form in which they have been submitted by those representing the men, and it will not be difficult to improve their technical language, so as to give them full effect:—

IX. The following to be added:—That the said owners shall also send a similar notice of such accidents to the inspector of the district, and that each colliery owner forward to such inspector a notice of every serious accident, whether fatal or not.

X. Additions thereto:—That the coroner shall send notice to the inspector of the district of the time and place for holding the said adjourned inquest. N.B.—It is averred by some coroners that they should not do so, as they hold office on such terms. If this has any weight with the Legislature, then it is suggested that the coronable of the parish perform this duty.

XII. The following additions thereto:—Provided also that no owner of a colliery shall be exempt from the responsibility in hiring or employing improper and unqualified agents or workmen.

The deputies of the men have also proposed important additions to the bill, by embodying in its provisions enactments similar to those contained in the Factory Regulation Act. The Government appoint inspectors of factories as well as of coal mines; the colliery population is at least as well entitled to legislative protection as the factory children, and if the system of factory inspection has worked well, on what principle can the withholding of similar remedial provisions from the coal miner be justified? As the proposed clauses were in effect transcripts, with mere verbal alterations, or rather adaptations, of the provisions of the Factory Act, and as these provisions have long since received the sanction of the Legislature, and have been acted upon by the administrative authorities, we might fairly anticipate that Parliament would not hesitate to throw the same protection over the far more numerous, and infinitely more important, colliery population of Great Britain. In asserting the unquestionable claims of the coal miners to similar enactments in their favour, it should be remembered that they are exposed equally with those employed in factories to the same dangers of machinery; and that in addition to the numerous perils peculiarly incident to mining operations, they suffer from the effects of vitiated air, and are exclusively the victims of terrific and fatal explosions, which a well-devised preventive system might, in many cases, avert.

In the absence of any very exciting circumstances, or features of more than usual importance in the mining world, and while other sources of profitable investment are quietly streaming on in their usual course, we think it will not be out of place here to call the attention of capitalists, and particularly persons of limited means, to a source of investment at once giving a large return, and presenting undeniable security, which appears to be very far from being understood and appreciated as it ought to be—the RAILWAYS OF INDIA. We believe much misunderstanding has prevailed in the public mind with regard to these undertakings; many errors have been committed, and exaggerated statements indulged in, by over-zealous and sanguine promoters and supporters; and, on the other hand, erroneous calculations have been upheld to suit the peculiar views and interests of speculating individuals. It will be our object in these remarks to show that, as commercial undertakings, the railways of British India will be constructed on a far more economical basis than anything of the kind in this country, and that as a source of investment they are unquestionably secure, and yielding, even in their infancy, a much larger interest than the average railway dividends of Great Britain, a minimum rate of 5 per cent. per annum for 99 years being guaranteed by the East India Company, with every probability, on their general development, of paying an average dividend of 10 per cent. per annum.

It is now nearly 10 years ago since the subject of railways in India was submitted by the directors of the East India Company, in consequence of various projects which had been set on foot by parties interested in the

commerce and improvement of the country for the consideration of the Indian Government. Engineers were dispatched to that country, who applied themselves to surveying and inspecting this important subject, and in six months their report was produced, highly favourable to the suggestions of the promoters. The chief advantages accorded by the East India Company, under an agreement entered into after long and anxious consideration, the terms of which have formed the basis of all subsequent contracts with the Indian railway companies, are—The free grant of all land required for the purposes of the railway, with the guarantee of interest at the rate of 5 per cent., for 99 years; the railway company has the power of surrendering the works when the line is open, on giving six months' notice to the Government, and the East India Company undertakes to return the whole amount expended; the East India Company have the power within six months after the expiration of 25 or 50 years to purchase the railway at the mean London market value on the average of the three previous years; the railway company failing to finish or work the line properly, the Government are entitled to take possession on payment of the sums expended.

In repayment of the guaranteed interest to the Government from the profits of the line, if the profits of the line exceed the 5 per cent. interest, half the surplus is payable to the shareholders in addition. Should it work at a loss, a rateable deduction is to be made; and at the end of 99 years the land, together with the works, lapse to Government, who, at the same time, will purchase the stock of engines, carriages, &c., at a valuation.

This system has now been in operation four years; it has been narrowly watched, with a view to correction, and found to work exceedingly well. The subject of establishing a system of trunk lines for the whole of India being taken into consideration, and a vast plan laid down, under the sanction of the East India Company, the first in rank is a line from Calcutta to Delhi and the north-western frontier; 2d, a branch connecting the above with Bombay; 3d, a line between Bombay and Madras; 4th, a line from Bombay to Candish and the vast cotton districts of Berar; and 5th, a line from Madras to the Malabar Coast, with a branch to Bangalore. The companies formed for carrying out these extensive works are the East Indian Railway Company, the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company, the Madras Railway Company, the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway Company, and the Sindh Railway Company. The advantages to the iron trade of this country, arising out of the introduction of the railway system into India, must be great; while at the same time it will, as a natural consequence, stimulate the manufacture in that country, most prolific in valuable iron ores, and possessing vast deposits of coal. If we only estimate that the five companies average the construction of 20 miles each, or 100 miles per annum, of single lines, with sidings, a low calculation, and taking the rails at 70 lbs. per yard, with a proportionate addition for chairs, spikes, &c., we have an annual consumption of about 1,250,000 tons of iron per annum, a consumption which will assuredly be kept up, and extended over an indefinite, and indeed incalculable, number of years; as, at the lowest computation, at least 10,000 miles of railway will be necessary to bring into commercial and military contiguity the principal cities and districts alone of this vast territory. In the aggregate, these companies will probably expend 20,000,000 sterling on lines which, when complete, will lead to the profitable outlay of 20,000,000 more, securing the means of rapid public transit, and opening up a legitimate and healthy source of permanent and profitable investment.

In our Journal of the 5th May we referred to the fact that the important Irish lawsuit involving the interests of the CLEW BAY MINING COMPANY had terminated, "by the LORD CHANCELLOR of Ireland having, by a final decree, directed Sir RICHARD A. O'DONNELL to amend the last renewal, by making it conformable to the terms of the original lease." From an announcement, in another column, it now appears that the company have received from the solicitor of Sir R. A. O'DONNELL a formal notice of discontinuance of all proceedings against them, their landlord (Mr. McCormick), and other parties concerned. This satisfactory termination of a most troublesome lawsuit, which has been pending, we believe, about two years, will, no doubt, have the effect of giving the greatest confidence to the shareholders of the company in resuming the mining works at Clew Bay. It affords us much pleasure to record the event, as we believe Irish mining, while presenting a vast field for the profitable employment of capital, will also advance the interests of the trading and working population of Ireland; and from the tenure of this particular property at Clew Bay, and its mineral prospects, the most satisfactory results are confidently anticipated.

The operation of the Winding-up Acts has been severely felt in several mining operations, but it must prove a salutary check on those which may be hereafter established for purposes not purely legitimate, or conducted on principles not strictly honest. It is, however, a subject of congratulation to those who feel an interest in mining adventures, to perceive that while depression pervades almost every branch of trade, the principal mines formed on the Cost-book Principle, and conducted with prudence, continue steadily to advance in public estimation. While we point with feelings of satisfaction to those remarkable instances of progress, we have never failed to deprecate in the strongest terms those adventures in which the mine had been originally selected without judgment, and the company made an instrument for other purposes of speculation than that of *bona fide* mining. Instances of this description have, we regret to say, been too frequent in England, and the records of the Irish Court of Chancery now present to us an instructive illustration of our views with respect to a mining company of a combined character, in which the property is situated in Ireland, while the management was confided to a board of directors sitting in London.

We allude to the petition presented to the Court of Chancery in Ireland by GEORGE MACARTNEY, Esq., M.P., and others, shareholders in the Irish Consols Mining Company, for the purpose of winding-up the affairs of that company, under the Winding-up Acts of 1848-9. Those Acts provide, that where a company falling within their operation has an office or place of business either in England or Ireland, or transacts its business in either country, the party seeking to wind it up may select the jurisdiction of the Court of Chancery in either England or Ireland. Mr. MACARTNEY and his co-petitioners accordingly selected the Court of Chancery in Ireland, stating on the face of their petition that the company had been formed under the above designation, and established for the purpose of working certain mines situated in the county of Cork, and that it comprised a number of shareholders resident both in England and in Ireland. The petition further alleged that the company had virtually ceased to work the mines, having only a few labourers employed; that the mines were in the neighbourhood of the sea, and that the sea had made incursions into one of the shafts, the consequence of which had been the interruption of the works. The petition also stated that the mines were at present worked merely to prevent the forfeiture of the lease under which they were held, and that the object of the directors in resisting the winding-up of the company was to avoid the liability which it would impose upon them of refunding large sums of money, to which the body of shareholders claimed to be entitled in equal distribution.

The usual order for winding-up the company having been made, unless cause should be shown to the contrary, cause was shown by the directors, one director, Mr. MACKEAN alone consenting to the order. The case was very fully argued before the Master of the Rolls, whose judgment stated the facts, and the law bearing upon them, with great clearness. As to the jurisdiction of the Court to make the order for winding-up, he could not see any reason to doubt it. Although the office, or public place of business of the company, happened to be in London, the company was Irish, and the mines over which it had control are situated in Ireland. It was clear, from the facts of the case disclosed upon the documents, that the directors had ceased to carry on business, and, under the terms of the Act, this conferred jurisdiction on the Court to wind-up the company. It further appeared, that from the commencement of the undertaking to the present time there had been any addition of the accounts. The company had, at present, only six or eight workmen employed at the mines, who, it is evident, were there only for the purpose of preventing a forfeiture under the strict terms of the lease, and the MASTER of the ROLLS ventured to say that, if an opportunity were afforded to him of inspecting the mines, that he would not find them at work. It would appear that there has been a steam-engine erected at the mines, but it does not seem that it was doing any effectual work, and as the sea had made its way into one of the shafts, the steam-engine is not likely to prove of much future use. If there existed any doubt as to the jurisdiction of the Court, it was removed by the 8th clause of the Act, which empowered the Court to dissolve the company, if any circumstances could be shown sufficient to induce it to do so. This section gave the Court the most extensive jurisdiction,

and it was impossible to understand the facts of the case, and not to feel that it was the imperative duty of the Court to interfere. The facts of the case furnished a remarkable illustration of the manner in which joint-stock mining companies have been in certain cases conducted with reference to Ireland. The lease of the mines bears date in 1851, the interest in that lease became vested in Messrs. LANE and PERRIER, and the company was formed some time in the year 1853. A very flourishing prospectus was then published, shares to the amount of 10,000l. were issued and purchased, and the first step taken was to buy the interest in the lease. In this circumstance, standing by itself, there was not anything unreasonable; but what do we afterwards find immediately connected with the transaction? An arrangement was made between the directors and Messrs. LANE and PERRIER, that as soon as the 10,000l. was raised by the sale of shares, the half of it (5000l.) should be immediately transferred to them; they were to pay nominally 10,000l., but, in reality, only 5000l., so that they appropriated 5000l. to themselves without advancing a farthing. The next matter connected with the company was this, Messrs. LANE and PERRIER wanted to borrow 2000l., the company lent it, the security being an assignment to that amount of the shares for 5000l. appropriated by the directors. It has been said that the directors were indignant at this circumstance; but this was clear, that somebody did it, and that it was done by somebody connected with the company.

This is an extraordinary illustration of the manner in which some of these companies are carried on, the object having been to persuade the unfortunate people of this country that the concern was a very flourishing one, and to induce them to purchase shares which were wholly valueless. The directors, however, now insist that it is not expedient to leave the adjudication of the matter to the Court of Chancery, the reason of which is very plain, when we consider how very different the result will be between a distribution by the Court, and by the directors. If the Court interferes, the directors will be obliged to disgorge all the money which they have in their hands; if, however, they are left to themselves, they will never pay a farthing in the shape of dividends; and when it is shown that each of the ten directors has a personal interest in preventing this order from being made, much attention is not to be paid to what they say on the subject. There is admittedly a sum of 1195l. due by Mr. LANE, and he is one of the parties who have shown cause; and there is also a sum of 493l., which somebody is liable to pay. The directors also owe sums of money: thus, a sum of 403l. 15s. is due by Mr. MACARTNEY, upon his promissory note, which has been duly protested. Mr. PERRIER and Sir JAMES DOMBRAY also owe sums. The Hon. Mr. PONSOMBY owes 650l.; General CHATTERTON, 1030l.; Mr. Wm. SHAW, 400l.; and other members of the directory owe other sums. Is the winding-up of a company so circumstanced to be left in the hands of the directors, and is it not more likely that the Master will deal more fairly with the shareholders than the directors would? The directors intend to pay the shareholders a few shillings in the pound; but if the order to wind-up, now about to be made, is legal under the statute, they will ultimately receive much more. "I have not," observed the MASTER of the ROLLS, "the least doubt that I have jurisdiction to entertain this case, which must end in making the directors pay back what is due by them. Under these circumstances, the question is, am I to hesitate to grant this application to wind-up the concern, the result of which must be to oblige the directors to pay into Court sums amounting to nearly 10,000l., unless they shall satisfy the Master that they are not liable to them. When I granted the conditional order, I intimated that it was not very unlikely that the promissory notes would remain unpaid; and, as events have turned out, I was not very wrong in my calculation. When the case is fully investigated by the Master, and the circumstances connected with these promissory notes are enquired into, I will be surprised if the directors are not obliged to pay every farthing of the costs." His Honour then made the conditional order for winding-up the company absolute, with costs against the opposing directors.

When we reflect on the facts disclosed in this judgment, and so severely yet justly commented on by the Court, we cannot but feel that it is such mismanagement, to call it by the gentlest term, as this that has tended to bring mining operations into disrepute. Here we have a company formed under high-sounding names, with large available funds, and we find those funds, instead of being expended on the mine, or in the working of it, passing into the pockets of the directors, on their own personal securities, and applied by them to their own private purposes. Is it not very possible that if this money had been appropriated to the improvement of the property, and rendering it available for its legitimate object, it would now be in a position to realise even the very sanguine anticipations held forth by the prospectus? The Winding-up Acts do not, unfortunately, reach, or apply a remedy to, a case like this; and it is to be regretted that there is no power of ascertaining what might have been the result of the adventure, if the money had been honestly expended, instead of being transferred into the pockets of the directors. Such an investigation would be but just, and the result might tend to relieve mining as a source of investment, in this instance, from a reproach which ought not to rest upon it, but which ought to be traced to its true source. If the directors of an insurance or of a steam-ship company were thus to misapply the funds, the imputation would not in such case be cast on the system of insurance, or on that of ocean steam navigation. It is equally inequitable to shift the discredit of such a course as here disclosed from the guilty parties, and attribute it to the general system of mining. We confess we anticipate beneficial consequences to the mining interest from such an exposure as the present; it will teach shareholders to be circumspect in the selection of directors, and it will tend to enforce upon directors the truth of the old maxim, "Honesty is the best policy."

The new MINING SCHOOL at Truro, which, as will be seen by an announcement in another column, is to be opened on the 1st of October next, is the first district school formed in connection with the Central School, established last year, and from present appearances appears likely to commence operations under the most favourable auspices. The teachers already appointed are—the Rev. ALFRED W. HOBSON, A.M., mathematics; chemistry, metallurgy, mineralogy, geology, &c., Mr. HODGE; mining, mechanics, &c., Mr. RICKARD. We owe it to the latter gentleman to make some few observations as to his antecedents, in consequence of a communication in last week's MINING JOURNAL, from "A Mine Agent," complaining of the appointment of Mr. RICKARD, on the ground of incapacity, having had no experience in mining, but engaged all his life in teaching reading, writing, and arithmetic to children. It is evident that the writer cannot be acquainted with Mr. RICKARD, and that he has been most grossly misinformed. Having made the necessary enquiry, we find that Mr. RICKARD for 13 years has certainly been a highly-respected teacher of the arts mentioned, resident in Redruth, the centre of an important mining district, but also affording instruction to many youths who are now engaged in practical mining round the neighbourhood. Before he became a teacher, he worked for years as a miner, both underground and at surface, and is, therefore, well acquainted with every department of practical mining and mining mechanics. He has recently had the advantage of attending the lectures of Professors WILLIS, SMYTH, and others, at the Mining School in Jermyn-street, and is now visiting the mines in the north of England, in order to obtain the best information respecting the machinery employed in them, and the mode in which their business is conducted. It is rather gallant to the feelings, but unfortunately is too often the case, that because an individual evinces a superiority of mind sufficient to raise him to a higher station in life, he is immediately pointed out for detraction, and his qualifications derided and sneered at. "A Mine Agent" may have written his letter to us with the best motives, and in ignorance of the facts, but we trust he will now acknowledge that he has been deceived, and, at least, has not done justice to Mr. RICKARD in his communication.

The governors of this Mining School consider the Central School of primary importance, and in carrying out the objects originally contemplated, they are endeavouring to give full effect to the following resolution, passed at a meeting of the Central Committee in Jan. 1854:—"That such further assistance towards the encouragement of local schools, or the establishment of district mining schools, or of classes for mutual instruction among adults, or of schools for the instruction of working miners out of 'core,' should be afforded as the funds of the institution will admit of, due regard being had to the contributions from, and the requirements of, each district." They consider the central and local schools as two combined parts of the same system, calculated to exert a mutually beneficial influence on each other. We would call particular attention to the advertisement alluded to, which gives a full detail of the arrangements contemplated, the effort about to be made being one which, we trust, will commend itself to the earnest encouragement and pecuniary support of all classes in the county. At all events, it may reasonably be expected that, if it cannot have the aid, it will have all the forbearance and best wishes of those who feel interested in the advancement of education and science, or who may

desire to see our ingenious and industrious miners possessed of the best means for improving their minds, and the methods of conducting their arduous calling, and of obtaining more satisfactory results from their labours.

IRON AND COAL TRADES OF YORKSHIRE AND DERBYSHIRE.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN CHESTERFIELD.]

JUNE 15.—The Iron Trade has assumed a much more cheerful aspect, orders being more abundant, and prices firmer: considerable orders have been offered for rails in Staffordshire to the makers there, and some of the manufacturers of bars, hoops, and sheets, have given notice of their being unable to take further orders, excepting at quarter-day's prices, in the firm belief that an advance will then be declared. This seems to be imperatively called for by the rapid advance made in the price of Scotch pig-iron; and, anomalous as it may appear, Staffordshire bars are quoted from 10s. to 20s. per ton lower than the commonest description of Scotch bars; indeed, we conceive that bars at recent Staffordshire prices must be made at a ruinous loss, unless cinder be very unsparingly introduced into them; and we are glad to find that the makers who have undersold to so great an extent find it necessary to seek for remunerative prices.

The Coal Trade of Yorkshire and Derbyshire continues to be very dull, and must be placed upon a lower scale of prices, or the great element of our national prosperity will fail to give us the superiority over other nations which we have so long enjoyed; and the diversion of our manufactures to more favourably situated countries must ensue.

Petitions against the passing of the bill to render metallic mines rateable to the poor are being prepared in every township in the High Peak of Derbyshire, and several thousand signatures have already been forwarded to Mr. Hubbersty, solicitor, who is in London, taking active steps for a successful opposition to the measure. This evening Mr. Burgoyne meets the miners of the north of Derbyshire, at Bradwell, in order to hasten the formidable opposition already organised. Communications from the Members of the county have been received, as well as from Mr. Hadfield, the Member for Sheffield, who expresses his opinion that the measure is unequalled for, and that he is prepared to second the efforts of the Derbyshire Members in their opposition to the bill. The different Members of Parliament whose support has been asked are unanimous in their opinion of the injurious and unfair nature of the proposed bill. We shall give their letters next week, together with an outline of the arguments of the speakers at the Bradwell meeting. The miners of Derbyshire, with Mr. Burgoyne as their chief, have nobly and manfully done their duty in resisting this measure, which (for the sake of the mining enterprise of the country) it is hoped will never become law.

The Derbyshire lead mines are progressing very favourably. The last measure of ore at the Brightside Mine was the largest ever known, although of late some of the places have not been so rich as they were last measure; but within the last few days, we understand, some further improvement has taken place. A dividend of 10s. per share will be immediately declared at the Peak United. The Sallad Holes have sold ore which leaves a balance in hand of 10s. per share, which, added to the 30s. per share recently obtained, will be kept in the banker's hands until the great trial going on at the mines be completed, which will probably be about September next, on which occasion whatever remains will be paid to the shareholders. The experiment going on at the Sallad Holes will, we believe, cause a considerable increase in the returns of the mine, and the whole will be completed without a call.

On Monday afternoon, a meeting of colliers was held on Amerswood Common, Ince, and was attended by about 1000 persons, but many of those present were women and boys, and not more than half the assemblage listened to the speakers, the remainder being scattered in groups. The object of the meeting appeared to be to urge the miners to form themselves into a union, for the purpose of regaining the 10 per cent., the amount by which their wages were recently reduced. George Lomax, of Radcliffe Bridge, presided, and the meeting was addressed by Henry Hurst, of Darcy Lever, and James Price, of St. Helens, miners' agents, who moved and seconded the following resolution, which passed unanimously, the proceedings throughout being orderly:—"That it is the opinion of this meeting that the reduction that has taken place in this part of the country was unjust and unequal for; and that we, who are now assembled together, do pledge ourselves never to rest satisfied, but will use all legal and constitutional means that lie in our power to get that back which has been so unjustly taken from us."

A very important and beneficial change is gradually taking place in the general trades of the country, owing to various causes, which have happily tended to promote increased commerce. The successes of our brave Allies in the East, the great influx of gold, the probability of a bountiful harvest, and cheap food, are all harbingers of the "better time coming." It is now evident, amongst commercial men, that much more confidence is expressed as to the prospects of trade, and a speedy termination of the war, should the successes which have crowned the efforts of the besieging armies be continued for a much longer period. There is a good demand now for iron of different descriptions for works the completion of which was suspended in the earlier part of the present memorable campaign.

Stocks and Shares in the provincial markets are held firmly at improving prices, and there is not that strong disposition to sell which prevailed a short time ago.

THE IRON AND METAL TRADES OF SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN BIRMINGHAM.]

JUNE 14.—The past week has not been distinguished by any peculiar transactions in connection with our trade and commerce. Things, on the whole, have been quiet, with rather a tendency towards improvement. There has been an increased demand for iron of nearly all kinds, and far less disposition to sell at reduced prices than was observable during the previous month. This, however, is owing to an improvement in the American order-sheets, and an evident desire on the part of the banks to afford additional accommodation to the trade, wherever it can be done with anything like safety. At the large houses, they will not submit to the ruinous reduction which the forced sales, caused by some of the recent failures, have given rise to, and iron, in anything like quantities, cannot now be obtained at the figures heretofore so freely quoted. Confidence has also been restored to a considerable extent; and although we are not in possession of that almost unlimited credit which prevailed until within the last few months, we are, nevertheless, improving, and carrying on operations with much less difficulty, and advantage. The hourly successes reported from the East have a reanimating effect upon nearly all interests, and we are anxiously looking forward to some decisive action, which will eventuate in the restoration of peace, and with it that abundance of commerce we enjoyed before the breaking out of the present unfortunate war. Of the result of the commercial embarrassments lately announced, there is little more known than you have already published, with the exception of some further steps lately taken in the affairs of Messrs. Fletcher, Rose, and Co. The creditors met on Monday last at the Birmingham Bankruptcy Court, under the provisions of the private arrangement clauses of the Bankruptcy Consolidation Act, when, after considerable discussion, 7s. 6d. in the pound was offered, payable at long dates, on 45,000l. the amount of the liabilities—the payment to be secured by a conveyance to trustees of the stock, plant, machinery, &c., belonging to the firm. Some of the creditors were unfavourable to the proposal, but the general impression seemed to be that better terms could not be obtained, and an adjournment to the 28th inst. was agreed to, the attorneys in the interim to prepare the draft of a deed, setting forth the details of the proposal. In the case of Messrs. Davies and Son very few, if any, additional particulars relative to the enquiries of the committee have transpired, but it is generally felt to be most undesirable to force the property into the market at the present time, if those affected by the failure can be enabled to weather the storm until a more favourable turn in affairs generally shall take place. Little, if any, further progress is reported in connection with the insolvency of Messrs. Bennett and Blackwell, but it is feared better terms than those I have already stated cannot be had. There have not been any fresh disasters this week, and even rumour is silent, so that hopes are entertained that we may have seen the worst of our position.

In the Coal Trade, the utmost activity prevails, and prices are high, 12s. 6d. and 13s. per ton at the pit's mouth being quoted. The men throughout the district are at work, and the difference heretofore existing has been finally adjusted, subject to some occasional threats of a renewed application for more wages.

The Metal Trades generally are firm, and prices well maintained. There is about an average supply of copper in the warehouses of the dealers, and although the demand at some of the most important manufacturing in the borough has been very much reduced of late, the price of the article is

well maintained. Tin is also higher than the present profits of the manufacturers admit of, but the foreign demand upholds prices.

In the General Hardware Trade, there is very little progress to report this week. The large houses have, as usual, their average share of business, but as yet we have not received those large orders from America which we had been led to expect. The advices, however, are encouraging, and lead to the hope that if our friends on the other side of the water are favoured with an abundant harvest, of which they are said to have every prospect, we may look forward to a revival of a brisk trade.

There have been two meetings this week of local and general interest—one on Monday of the South Staffordshire Railway Company under the Wharncote order (Mr. R. O. Chaffin in the chair), the object being to obtain the assent of the meeting to a bill now before Parliament, empowering them to co-operate with the Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton Company, in providing station accommodation at Dudley. The necessity of the proposal being obvious, the assent of the shareholders was unhesitatingly given, after which it was stated by the Chairman that a voluntary payment of 2s. 10s. per share had been very generally made by the shareholders, for the purpose of constructing the Cannock and Norton branch line, in which the London and North-Western Company hold 15,000 shares, and upon which they had paid up 40,000l. The immense mineral resources in the Cannock Chase, and the hourly-growing importance of the district, renders the above undertaking most desirable, and its rapid completion necessary. The second meeting was an adjourned monthly one of the Rhedol United Mining Company, on the 8th inst. (Mr. R. W. Hand in the chair, and present Messrs. Spilsbury, S. Phillips, J. R. Lawton, E. Woodland, T. Mills, W. Phillips, J. R. Chirm, and W. White). The accounts showed a balance in hand of 76l. 10s. 8d. A call of 6d. per share was made. The report will be found in our City Article.

Messrs. Jos. Mayer, of Dale Hall Pottery, Longport, and John David Kind, of Birmingham, have, during the past week, through Mr. Shaw, specified their patent for an improvement in door knobs, or handles, made of china, earthenware, glass, or other vitreous or semi-vitreous substance, and in attaching the said knobs, or handles, to their spindles. This invention consists in constructing the metal mounts used for attaching door knobs, or handles, to their spindles, and of constructing the knobs, or handles, in a manner proper for the reception of the metal mounts, in the following manner:—The mount consists of a square tube, having at one end a flange, and at the other end two parallel ears. The door knob, or handle, into which the mount is to be forced has divergent or convergent channels, into which the parallel ears of the mount are forced—the mount becoming thereby fixed firmly in the knob, or handle, the divergent or convergent ears of the mount resisting its withdrawal from the knob, or handle. Instead of having two parallel ears on the end of the mount, and two channels in the knob, or handle, the inventors sometimes use four ears and four channels. The inventors also introduce gutta-percha into the knob, or handle, and by heating the mount before introducing it into the knob the gutta-percha is fused, and on cooling gives great steadiness to the mount. The inventors construct the metal mounts of knobs, or handles, of malleable or annealed cast-iron—that is, cast-iron which has been annealed by being heated in contact with peroxide of iron.

STOCK, MINING, AND RAILWAY SHARES IN IRELAND.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT IN DUBLIN.]

JUNE 14.—Consols have fluctuated during the week between 91½ and 92½; and New Three per Cents. closed to-day at 92½, or an advance of ½ since Thursday. Shares advanced in conjunction with funds in the commencement of the week, but subsequently became weaker; in most instances, however, the high prices were maintained. Great Southern and Western shares advanced from 50½ to 51½, but receded to-day to the original quotation, 50½. Belfast Junctions have been done to-day at 43½, and Midland Great Westerns at 50½, being an advance of 1l. on the former, and ½ on the latter. In Mining Shares, no change has taken place.

The secretaryship of the Belfast Junction Railway Company has been lately filled up by the appointment of Mr. Robert Heron, and the selection seems to have given general satisfaction.

Within the last few years, and during the existence of the gold mania especially, several companies were brought out under London management, and started to work mines in Ireland upon the Cost-book System. By the specious promises set forth in the original statements, many a small capitalist was induced by them, as well as by the alluring bait of "no further liability," to embark his whole fortune in those undertakings which have since turned out so shamefully, and have thrown such discredit upon mining in Ireland. Week after week, your Journal has been teeming with enquiries from unfortunate shareholders, as to the prospects of those companies; but no information can be afforded beyond the facts that operations are suspended, and the shares are worthless on the market. I must exclude the Lackamore Mining Company from these observations, believing that they are possessed of a good property, which only requires development; and the mine having been placed under the management of the eminent firm of Messrs. Taylor and Sons, is the best guarantee that exertions will not be spared to make the adventure a profitable one. You will, doubtless, draw prominent attention to the important judgment of the Master of the Rolls, in the case of Macartney v. the Irish Consols Mining Company. [See remarks in another column.] I beg, however, entirely, but respectfully, to differ with the statement in his Honour's charge, "that this case furnishes a good illustration of the manner in which joint-stock companies are carried on in Ireland;" for it will be found, upon examination, whether looking at banks, mines, or railways, that our legitimately formed joint-stock companies are worked by Irish management with enterprise and success, and among them are to be found as safe and as profitable concerns as there are in these kingdoms. It must not be supposed by your readers that the mining companies entered upon the Stock Exchange are the only ones carrying on operations in this country: some of the most extensive mines in Ireland have been, and are being, worked by private companies; and though it is not always easy to get information concerning them, I will from time to time put you in possession of all the facts that come to the knowledge of myself or friends.

A meeting of the adventurers in the Trinity Mines took place on Monday, and it appeared, from the report of the agent, that the works were proceeding with vigour and success. The mine is already in fork below the 46 fathom level, and three pitches have been set for the present month. The agent calculates on having the mine completely unwatered in the course of the month, when the returns will greatly increase. From the trial workings in the upper levels, 130 tons of ore have been already shipped, but, from the great admixture of gossan, only a low price was obtained. This company's property is situated in Kerry; and having lately purchased the Kenmare Mines, they possess one of the most extensive mining districts in Ireland. There are only 16 parts or shares, divided among some ten or eleven holders; and although the company is but a short time in existence, calls to the extent of nearly 3000l., or about 185l. per each 16th, have been made, which shows that this spirited company are determined on working their property with the utmost vigour, regardless of outlay; and it is to be hoped that their enterprising conduct will be rewarded by the success which their prospects lead them to anticipate.

The Browhead Mine sold two parcels of copper ore at Swansea—21 tons 6 cwt. at 22l. 3s. 6d. per ton, and 1 ton 3 cwt. realised 46l. 3s. per ton.

The Mining Company of Ireland received tenders on Wednesday for a cake of fine silver, weighing 1030 ounces, and assaying 15½ dwts. better. I will endeavour to get some particulars from them for my next letter.

The Bank of Ireland declared a dividend of 4½ per cent. for the half-year. A summary of the proceedings in the Incumbered Estates' Court, compiled up to the 11th instant, shows that the total number of petitions presented has been 3579, of which 500 were supplemental or dismissed petitions. The number of absolute orders for sale was 2778; the number of estates sold, 1622; the number of lots, 8024; the number of conveyances executed, 4961; the number of matters in which the owners were bankrupt or insolvents previous to the presentation of the petition 319; and the number of cases which had been pending in the Court of Chancery before being brought into the Incumbered Estates' Court, 1186. Of the purchasers, 6676 were Irish, and 220 English, Scotch, or foreign; and the number of acres purchased by these latter were 650,000, at a rate of purchase amounting to 2,271,010l. The gross proceeds of all the sales were 15,239,570l.; and the gross amount of money yet distributed in cash or stock, or of credits allowed to incumbancers who were purchasers, was 12,760,665l.; leaving a balance of about two millions and a half, for funds allocated in trust, or provisional credits not yet made absolute, or cash and stock yet standing to the credit of the Commissioners in the Bank of Ireland. The public are looking out with some anxiety to the period when this Court, to which Ireland may well be said to owe its regeneration, will be annexed, or its powers transferred, to the Court of Chancery; and it

has afforded very general satisfaction to find that the Commissioners of Inquiry have, in their report, recommended that when that annexation or transfer shall take place, the officers who have been trained into such an efficient performance of their duties in the Incumbered Estates' Court shall still be retained in the public service.

In the Incumbered Estates' Court, on Wednesday, the Cappoquin estate of Sir John H. Keane, Bart., of the nett yearly value of 2072l., was purchased by private contract for 42,000l. The incumbrances on this portion of the estate, it is stated, were only 23,000l.

The New York, Newfoundland, and London Telegraph Company have, through the medium of one of their directors, been in communication with parties in Cork to obtain information respecting that harbour, with a view of having Cork established, if possible, as a "port of call" for the Collins line of steamers during the present summer. The company's telegraphic line, it is now stated, will be very soon completed from the Continent of America to St. John's, Newfoundland, and the object sought to be attained is to bring intelligence direct from that point by steamer to Cork, whence telegraph communication with Liverpool and London already exists.

THE COAL TRADE.

The following is a statement of the delivery of coals, &c., in the port of London during the month of May:—

	Ships.	Tons.		Ships.	Tons.
Newcastle	318	107,900	Blyth	10	1,536
Sunderland	147	41,822	Scotch	7	1,259
Seaham	108	25,268	Welsh	93	24,313
Hartlepool	292	54,442	Yorkshire, &c. ..	22	1,259
Stockton and Middlesbro' ..	2	520	Small coal and cinders ..	3	68
Total				912	260,281

Total imported in May, 1854—coal, culm, and cinders..... 256,273

Comparative Statement of 1854 and 1855.

Imported from 1st January to 31st May, 1854 ..Ships 4,944 ..Tons 1,387,908 tons

Imported from 1st January to 31st May, 1855 .. " 4,346 .. " 1,230,511 "

Decrease of ships and tons..... 598 .. 157,397

THE RAILWAY COAL TRADE.

Monthly statement of coal and coke brought by railway and canal within the London district, during the month of May:—

Railways.	Tons cwt.	Railways.	Tons cwt.
Great Northern	38,639 8	Great Western	12,538 0
North-Western	40,353 7	South-Eastern	1,664 14
Eastern Counties	9,917 14		
Total by railway in May, 1855			101,153 3

Coals by railway in May, 1854 .. 88,738 7

Coals by canal in May, 1854 .. 2,351 0

Comparative Statement of 1854 and 1855.

Coals by railway from 1st January to 31st May, 1854 .. 369,557 6

Coals by railway from 1st January to 31st May, 1855 .. 410,316 5

Increase in the year 1855—railways .. 40,758 10

Coals by canals from 1st January to 31st May, 1854 .. 13,361 9

Coals by canals from 1st January to 31st May, 1855 .. 8,052 15

Decrease in the year 1855—canals .. 5,308 11

IRON AND STEEL—IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.—Returns just issued from the Parliamentary Paper Office show that the quantities of the various descriptions of iron and steel goods imported into the United Kingdom in the course of last year were:—Iron ore, 851 tons, nearly all of which came from Italy; chromate of iron, 2670 tons, the Turkish dominions and the United States being the chief sources of our supply; iron in pigs, 898 tons, chiefly from Canada; iron in bars, unwrought, 41,745 tons, almost entirely from Sweden; iron-wire, 70 cwt., chiefly from Belgium; rough castings of iron, 39 cwt., chiefly from France; iron bloom, 762 tons, all from Sweden and Norway; iron slit or hammered into rods, 53 tons, the greatest part of which was imported from Australia; old brass and cast-iron, 751 tons; iron hoops, 26 tons, also from Australia; cast-iron, 62 tons, chiefly from Brazil; steel, unwrought, 1408 tons, the chief source of the supply being Sweden; steel scrap, 326 tons, nearly three-fourths of the quantity coming from the United States; iron manufactures coated with brass or copper by dry galvanic process, entered from August 8th (a new branch of trade, to which we are indebted to France), 1 ton 4 cwt. 25 lbs.; machinery, wrought castings, tools, cutlery, and other manufactures of iron and steel, 722 tons; fancy ornamental articles of iron and steel, 16 tons, chiefly from France. Comparing the imports with those of 1853, we perceive a large increase in the article of iron ore, and also in wrought-iron and steel goods; but the supply of the latter came chiefly from Denmark, France, and Holland, in 1853, while last year the United States, Belgium, and France, were the chief sources of it. In 1853 about one-third of the supply of chromate of iron came from Russia, and notwithstanding that the war has closed that source of supply, the imports of last year show an increase, the benefit of which was enjoyed by Norway, Turkey, and the United States. As regards bar-iron, there is a decrease of alloy, most precisely the quantity received from Russia in the preceding year. The exports of foreign iron show a decrease, the quantities being, in 1854, bar-iron, 4351 tons; steel, unwrought, 1340 tons; wrought-iron and steel bars, 109 tons; and chromate of iron, 27 tons; against 5457 tons of bar-iron; 1171 tons of steel, unwrought; 50 tons of pig-iron; 10 tons of iron ore; 100 tons of wrought-iron and steel goods, entered before that period, and like goods of the declared value of 3631l., entered before that period, in 1853. The quantities of British iron exported last year were as follows:—Pig-iron, 293,432 tons; bar-iron 604,662 tons; bolt and rod iron, 12,056 tons; cast-iron, 69,338 tons; iron wire, 7997 tons, wrought-iron, 176,203 tons (including 26,084 tons of anchors and grapnels, 30,709 tons of hoops, and 8141 tons of nails); old iron for re-manufacture, 12,242 tons; and unwrought steel, 20,793 tons. Comparing these figures with the return for the preceding year, we find that the decrease in the quantity of pig-iron exported is exactly accounted for by the loss of a customer in Russia, which, in 1853, imported from this country 639 tons. Of bar-iron Russia imported from Britain, in 1853, 5080 tons, but the decrease in the exports of last year is about 40,000 tons, the remainder of the difference being accounted for by the diminished demand from the United States. The extra quantity having been taken chiefly by the United States, and in a less degree by Portugal, China, and some other countries.

The export of cast-iron also has increased, notwithstanding the closing of the outlet afforded to the Russian markets, which in 1853 took 1490 tons. Of iron-wire we exported about 2000 tons less last year than in the year before, owing to a large falling off in the demand from India. The wrought-iron exports show a considerable increase, the United States, British America, and Holland, having taken larger quantities of anchors, grapnels, &c., than in the preceding year, while an increased quantity of iron hoops was exported to Portugal, Madeira, and the Azores, and of nails to Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick. The old iron-trade shows a decline, the demand from our principle customers for this commodity, Russia and the Hanseatic Towns, having fallen off very considerably. In unwrought steel, three-fourths of our trade in which is with the United States, there is an increase of about 500 tons, notwithstanding that the increased business has been done with our neighbours across the Atlantic. The quantity of hardware and cutlery exported last year was 32,054 tons, the declared value of which was 3,867,598l.; this quantity is less by 321 tons than the exports of 1853, but the value shows an increase of 202,547l. This increase is the more striking inasmuch as Russia paid 57,032l. for British hardware and cutlery in 1853, and last year only 249l.—less than the declared value of the like exports to Balaklava, which figures in the returns at 387l.—*Birmingham Journal*, of this day.

MORE GOLD MAKING—ANOTHER SPURIOUS NUGGET.—A correspondent informs us, that a repetition of the "Wyld-Calvert gilding" has been detected in France. It appears that the immense nugget of "gold," which lately arrived at Havre, on its way to the Exhibition at Paris, turned out to be a deception. The men who brought it took it to the Bank of France, in order to obtain a loan of money on it, when it was found that the bulk of it was lead, covered over very ingeniously with gold, put on in such a manner as to closely resemble the valuable metal. The man who premeditated it has been arrested. So, it appears that the production of artificial nuggets, to order, is not confined to London amateurs, or the Great Globe.

The *Ericsen* was to leave New York for Havre on the 16th inst., propelled, not with the caloric engine, but by steam, in the ordinary manner. Mr. Ericsen, however, still persisted in the feasibility of his invention, and was being aided by a New York merchant with means to construct a new engine of 40-horse power.

MANUFACTURE OF CAST AND MALLEABLE IRON.

Prof. Frederick Grace-Calvert, of Manchester, has patented an invention, the object of which is to obtain a better quality of cast and malleable iron from certain iron slags or cinders, known by the names of puddling, refinery, and heating slags or cinders, than is effected at the present day. The usual way of applying these slags or cinders on a blast furnace consists in adding them, either alone or mixed with ironstone, without submitting them to any previous preparation, except sometimes burning them in a heap. The consequence is, that as they descend in the furnace they are soon carried to a bright red heat and fused, and get mixed with the various materials which compose the charge of a blast furnace. A portion of these slags or cinders, falling on mine or coke, is not fluxed, and thus gradually finds its way to that part of the furnace where cast-iron is being produced, and uniting with it, descends into the cupola or the blast furnace. It is easy to understand how the above iron slags or cinders, mixing themselves with the cast-iron, injure its quality, for iron slags or cinders are chiefly composed of silicate, sulphure, and phosphure of iron, which act most injuriously on the quality of cast and malleable iron.

The mode of operating, so as to effect the complete fluxing of the above slags or cinders, and thus prevent the silica, sulphur, and phosphorus arriving in contact with the cast-iron which is being produced, is as follows:—The first process consists in reducing the above puddling, refinery, and heating furnace slags or cinders into coarse powder, which is done by any of the ordinary mills and grinding apparatus now in use, and then adding to them about one-half their weight of slaked lime, made into a thick paste. They are then well mixed together, and the mass is made into lumps or bricks of a convenient size, which are dried or not, according to circumstances, previously to adding them at the top of the blast furnace; or the dried lumps of lime and slag or cinders may be calcined in a separate furnace, and afterwards introduced, with ordinary mine, at the top of the blast furnace; or the mass of lime and slag may be mixed with coal, coke, or charcoal, and calcined in a furnace, or introduced into crucibles, and thus separate the iron which it contains previously to its addition on the blast furnace. The patentee remarks, that heating slags or cinders generally do not require roasting, but that refinery and puddling slags often do.

The second process consists in roasting or oxidising the iron slags or cinders before they are mixed with slaked lime. To oxidise these slags or cinders two different processes are adopted. The slags are reduced to fine powder, and introduced into an oxidising furnace, such as is used for roasting copper ores; and whilst the powder is carried to a dull red heat it is well stirred, so as to transform the iron or the protoxide of iron it contains, into peroxide, the silicon into silica, the phosphure into phosphates, and the sulphur into sulphurous acid. When the powder has assumed a bright red colour, and no more sulphurous acid is produced, it is taken out of the furnace and mixed with slaked lime, and applied as above described.

The same purpose is attained by breaking the slags or cinders into small fragments, and introducing them with a small amount of coal into an ordinary kiln, or in one made of four walls which have numerous holes in the sides; the object of which is to admit freely the oxygen of the atmosphere, and which holes are also employed to remove the oxidised slags or cinders. These kilns are worked like ordinary lime-kilns—viz., the slags or cinders, mixed with a small quantity of coal, are constantly added at the top, whilst the oxidised slag or cinder is removed at the bottom by the opening or openings which exist there, and then the prepared slags or cinders are treated with slaked lime, as before described.

The third process to which the patentee submits puddling, refinery, or heating slags or cinders, is to reduce them into a powder, and introduce them into furnaces which communicate with the blast furnace by means of long flues, into which the volatile products given off from the mouths of the blast furnace or of the coke oven are passed. When the powdered slags or cinders are not sufficiently heated by the gases for these to act upon the component parts of the slags or cinders, a gentle heat is applied, so as to carry them to a dull red heat; then the silicates of protoxide of iron are decomposed, and metallic iron is produced. When the operation is completed, they are taken out and allowed to cool. Such reduced slags or cinders having been made into powder, are to be treated with slaked lime, in manner before described.

The patentee claims the use of hydrate of lime, or slaked lime, in combination or intimately mixed with heating, puddling, and refinery iron slags or cinders, both before and after calcining the latter.

CHARCOAL APPLIED TO SANITARY PURPOSES.

Messrs. Highley, of Fleet-street, have just published as a pamphlet the substance of a lecture recently delivered at the Royal Institution, Albemarle-street, by Dr. John Stenhouse, F.R.S., Lecturer on Chemistry in St. Bartholomew's Hospital, in which some important facts connected with the nature and properties of charcoal are elicited, by no means generally known. It has for centuries been known that charcoal had the power of absorbing noxious gases; but Stenhouse was the first who made any important experiments on the absorption of gases by charcoal, and he confined himself to the use of that made from box-wood. The following table exhibits the number of volumes of gas absorbed by a single volume of charcoal:—

Ammonia	90	Bisulphuretted hydrogen	35
Hydrochloric acid	85	Carbonic oxide	94
Sulphurous acid	65	Oxygen	92
Bisulphuretted hydrogen	55	Nitrogen	75
Nitrous oxide	40	Carburetted hydrogen	5
Carbonic acid	35	Hydrogen	17

This absorption, which is complete in 24 hours, has nothing chemical in its action, but is based on capillary attraction, just as liquids rise in very small tubes by the attraction of their sides.

Dr. Stenhouse was led to extend these researches by operating on ordinary wood charcoal, peat charcoal, and animal charcoal; and the following is the interesting result. Five decigrammes of charcoal absorbed the following number of centimetres of the different gases:—

Hydrochloric acid	30.0	Carbonic	32.5
Ammonia	30.0	Hydrogen	32.5
Peat	30.0	Nitrogen	27.5
Animal	30.0	Hydrogen	17.5

Animal charcoal is decidedly inferior to both wood and peat charcoal as an absorbent, but as a decoloriser it is immensely superior to both. As will be seen by the above table, wood charcoal has the greatest power; but, as the price of peat charcoal is considerably less than that of wood, in some situations and for certain purposes, peat charcoal will be found the most economical. To show the power of charcoal as a disinfecting agent and deodoriser, it is stated that Mr. John Turnbull, the chemical manufacturer of Glasgow, placed the bodies of two dogs in a wooden box, on a layer of charcoal powder a few inches deep, and covered them over with a quantity of the same material. Although the box was quite open and kept in the laboratory, no effluvia was perceptible, and on examining the bodies at the end of six months they were found to be in a very advanced state of decomposition. The putrefaction of animal and vegetable substances is in general a process of imperfect oxidation, forming and giving out a variety of complex secondary products, possessing disagreeable odours, and acting injuriously on the animal economy. In all the modern systems of chemistry, charcoal is described as possessing antiseptic properties, and retarding putrefaction; while, from the above and other similar experiments, it is evident the reverse is the case, and that it hastens the decay of putrefying substances with which it comes in contact. This error has arisen from the fact that charcoal masks or conceals its operations, by absorbing and oxidising the gaseous products evolved. This property of charcoal arises from its extreme porosity. Liebig estimates the pores in a cubic inch to be equal to at least 100 square feet of surface; and many have computed it at more than double that amount.

As charcoal is thus shown to be such a powerful oxidiser, it is manifestly wrong to incorporate it with manure until it is immediately to be put in the ground, for no sooner is the charcoal and manure in contact than a species of low combustion ensues, and the manure becomes greatly deteriorated; yet this is the very principle adopted by the several manure companies established in various parts of the country. Having thus described the true properties of charcoal, Dr. Stenhouse shows how it may be applied in numerous instances to sanitary purposes: respirators for ordinary wear, and for workmen in deleterious manufactures; ventilators for crowded buildings, which have already been applied with complete success at the justice-rooms in the Mansion House and Guildhall; for ships; screens for the gully holes of sewers; dissecting-rooms and wards of hospitals; and in a variety of other situations, where a screen made of two sheets of perforated metal, filled in between with pieces of charcoal, from the size of a pea to that of a bean, would form a most efficient air filter, and supply a pure and health-breathing atmosphere.

ATLANTIC SUBMARINE TELEGRAPH.—At the Institution of Civil Engineers a submarine electric conductor was exhibited, peculiarly adapted for long lines of sub-aqueous telegraph. This conductor differs entirely from all other submarine ropes yet constructed, combining very greatly increased conducting powers, with such a diminution of weight, and, at the same time, securing additional proportionate strength, that one vessel could conveniently carry the entire length required for the whole distance from England to America. We understand that the Atlantic Telegraph Company has recently been provisionally registered in this country, and as the cost of constructing and laying down such a line of communication will be but small, when compared with the expenses hitherto incurred on shorter passages with the cumbersome gigantic ropes hitherto in use, we trust the directors will exert their energies to carry out the views of the company, and we hope soon to hear of their progress and success.

BOILER EXPLOSION AT MANCHESTER.—VERDICT OF MANSLAUGHTER.—During the inquest on the youth killed by a boiler explosion at Mr. Ralph Wood's works, at Manchester, the safety-valve was produced, when the startling fact became evident to all engaged in the investigation that one part of it had been cast solid which should have contained an opening—in fact, it was so imperfect from the first, that not a breath of steam could have escaped. Under these circumstances, the jury found a verdict of "manslaughter against John Norbury, the maker of the valve." Ralph Wood, the son of the owner of the boiler, has, since the explosion, died of his injuries.

WEEKLY LIST OF NEW PATENTS.

APPLICATIONS FOR PATENTS, AND PROTECTION ALLOWED.

H. Holland: Treating metalliferous sulphurets.—T. McLow: Paddle-wheels.—W. Smith: Safety apparatus for mine shafts.—W. Smith and N. F. Taylor: Gas meters.—T. M. Greenhow: Iron ships.—R. MacLaren: Prevention of smoke.—F. T. Botta: Mixed furnaces.—S. Rowlands: Purifying gas.—F. de Morés: Obtaining motive-power.—J. H. Johnson: Casting metals.

WEEKLY LIST OF PATENTS SEALED.

O. H. Raeburn, Upper Montagu-street—Construction of fire-places for the better consumption of smoke, and in lighting and maintaining fires.
W. Lund and W. E. Hipkins, Fleet-street—Manufacture of corkscrews.
F. Archer, Bishopsgate-street, and W. Papineau, Stratford—Distilling peaty, schistose, bituminous, and vegetable matters.
W. Hartly, Bury—Safety-valves for steam-boilers and in steam-engines.
J. Pritchard, Portsea—Construction of screw-propellers.
W. Bertram, Upper Hardin-street, Woolwich—Manufacture of iron ships, steam and other boilers, bridges, and other structures, where numerous sheets of iron are used.
G. E. White, Fulham, and F. Robinson, Putney—Signalling for railway purposes.
J. L. Dunn, Glasgow—Working up certain waste sulphates and nitrates, and for the manufacture of useful products therefrom.
J. H. Johnson, Lincoln's Inn-fields—Obtaining motive-power.
R. Oxland, Plymouth—Manufacture and revivification of animal charcoal.
J. B. D. Malavay, Montbrison, France—Obtaining and applying motive-power.
R. S. Newall, Gatehead-on-Tyne—Rigging of ships and other vessels.
H. Chapman, Kingland—Electro-mechanical apparatus for supplying and adjusting the electrodes used in the production of the electric light.
H. M. Holmes, Derby—Manufacture of tyres for wheels.
P. Arrive, Spencer-street, Darnley-road, Gravesend—Safety-valves for steam-boilers.
A. Cunningham, Glasgow—Manufacture or production of sulphuric acid and sulphates of iron and alumina.
P. A. Devy, Old Jewry Chambers—Construction of coke ovens.

IRON MANUFACTURE.—Mr. J. Boydell, of Anchor Iron-works, Smethwick, has patented an improvement in the beds of reverberatory furnaces used for puddling iron. This invention relates to the employment of the refuse product of pyrites, principally composed of iron, in making the beds of reverberatory furnaces used for puddling iron. In the burning of iron pyrites, when manufacturing sulphuric acid or sulphur therefrom, the residual matters resulting (consisting of oxides of iron, combined with more or less impurities) have heretofore been thrown away as refuse, and it is the application of this refuse matter in the puddling of iron which constitutes the present invention; and the process of puddling will, by such application, be rendered less expensive, by reason of the low cost of such refuse matters. The oxides of iron obtained from pyrites in the manufactures above mentioned differ in quality, some being mixed with considerable quantities of quartz or silica, whilst others retain quantities of sulphur; those possessed of either of those matters to any considerable extent should be rejected. Those lumps which present to the touch a soft and smooth surface, and are of a reddish purple in colour, are the lumps which should be sorted out of the heaps for use in the puddling furnace; and those which present a hard, sharp, gritty, and cinder like surface to the touch, the consequence of the separation of the slag, are to be rejected, as well as those which present a crystalline or quartz like fracture, and those indicating the presence of sulphur. The lumps of the refuse matter having been sorted, as above mentioned, those which have been selected for use are to be employed in the making of the beds of puddling furnaces, in like manner to that ordinarily practised when using oxide ores of iron; the refuse oxides from pyrites being used either alone or in combination with the oxides of iron heretofore employed. The patentee claims the application of the refuse products of iron obtained in burning pyrites (for the manufacture of sulphuric acid and sulphur) in the making of the beds of reverberatory furnaces used for puddling iron.

IRON DIRECT FROM THE ORE.—Messrs. M. Bell and E. B. Isett, of Pennsylvania, have taken out a patent for an improvement in furnaces for manufacturing wrought-iron direct from the ore, consisting of a deoxidising chamber in connection with a reverberatory furnace and forge fire chamber. The ore being previously calcined or roasted, is broken fine, and mixed with a previously ascertained quantity of coke, and is filled into a series of tubes in the deoxidising furnace, and the covers closed. The furnace being in blast, the heat passing through the flues among the tubes deoxidises the ore, the carbonic acid passing off through holes in the covers. When sufficiently deoxidised, it is gently slid down through doors on to the puddling floor, and there welded into balls, from whence it is converted by the hammer into finished blooms, all under one heat. To convert this fibrous iron into laminated charcoal malleable iron, the puddling process is followed by forcing the hot spongy mass through an opening into the forge fire furnace, where it is refined, and converted by charcoal and other means into the usual manner. As soon as one or two boilers, these air pipes are carried through the water space into the furnace, at the proper angle, to deflect the air towards the back of the furnace. In marine engine furnaces, the air passes in front of a deflecting plate, which, while it causes the air to impinge directly under the hinder half of the fire-bars, keeps the air passages free from ashes.

SAFE FURNACE FOR BLASTING PURPOSES.—Mr. Phillip Bacon, of Simsbury, Connecticut, has taken out a patent for an improvement in safety fuse, for blasting under water, or where a waterproof fabric is required. The fuse, as commonly constructed, is in the usual dry use, covered with a strip of some woven material, made waterproof by pitch or tar. In cold weather this covering becomes hard and brittle, and in uncoiling the tape becomes loose in places, and allows the water to penetrate the charge. To prevent this, and in which the improvement consists, a thread or roving is wrapped round the protecting material, which prevents them cracking off, and at the same time renders one tape equal in effect to the two in the ordinary manufacture.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

ENGLAND.—Subjoined are the traffic returns of the various English lines for the last week:—

	1855.	1854.
London and North-Western	255,358	238,017
London and York	21,004	24,620
London and South-Western	17,020	15,054
London and Brighton	13,661	17,498
Great Western	27,857	26,967
North-Eastern	31,876	31,854
South-Eastern	19,434	19,170
Great Northern	19,137	17,702
Cheshire and Holyhead	5,496	5,382
Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire	8,464	10,850
East Anglian	858	827
Eastern Counties, Norfolk, and Eastern Union	21,810	23,174
Bristol and Exeter	6,306	5,129
Exeter and Crediton	186	126
Shropshire Union	873	634
Birkenhead, Lancashire, and Cheshire Junction	789	1,773
East Lancashire	5,905	7,108
Oxford and Worcester	4,434	1,715
Kendal and Windermere	230	307
Newcastle and Carlisle	8,231	2,901
London, Tilbury, and Southend	1,047	—

These figures show the following aggregate results:—

	Receipts.	Miles open.	Average per mile.
1855	£269,041	3907½	£68 17 0
1854	£273,681	3776½	£72 10 4

This comparison shows a considerable decrease, which, however, is fully accounted for by the fact that the corresponding week of last year was Whitweek, and also witnessed the opening of the Crystal Palace. On the other hand, the Great Western Company's receipts this week are increased by Assot races.

SCOTLAND.—The returns on Scotch lines are:—

	1855.	1854.
Aberdeen	£ 2,462	£1,772
Caledonian	11,781	11,564
North British	5,150	4,413
Edinburgh and Glasgow	5,214	5,315
Glasgow and South Western	5,908	5,632
Scottish Central	2,561	2,546
Great North Scotland	365	—
Dundee and Perth	901	796

Total

IRELAND.—The Irish returns are:—

	1855.	1854.
Belfast and Ballymena	£ 313	£ 807
Belfast and County Down	278	257
Cork and Brandon	217	254
Dublin and Wicklow	303	—
Londonderry and Enniskillen	610	507
Londonderry and Coleraine	265	273
Dublin and Belfast Junction	1,011	1,108
Great Southern and Western	5,951	5,632
Waterford and Limerick	850	837

Total

RAILWAY TRAFFIC.—The traffic returns of railways in the United Kingdom for the week ending June 9 amounted to 388,142½, and for the corresponding period of last year to 397,800½, showing a decrease of 9657½. The gross receipts for the eight railways having their termini in the metropolis amounted for the week ending as above to 174,894½, and for the corresponding week of last year to 180,387½, showing a decrease of 5493.

The decrease on the Eastern Counties Railway amounted to 1304½; on the London and North-Western to 2600½; on the London, Brighton, and South Coast to 3337½; on the London and Blackwall to 235½; and on the South Eastern to 747½; total, 8842½; but from this must be deducted 1430½ for the increase on the Great Northern; 859½ on the Great Western; and 1031½ on the London and South-Western Railway; together, 3360½; leaving the total, as above, 5482½. The decrease on the other lines of the United Kingdom amounted to 218,245½, and for the corresponding period of 1854 to 217,419½; showing a decrease of 826½. In the receipts of these lines, which, added to the decrease on the metropolitan lines, makes the total decrease 9657½, as compared with the corresponding week of 1854.

CIRCULAR NOTES, LETTERS OF CREDIT, AND BILLS OF EXCHANGE.—The LONDON AND WESTMINSTER BANK ISSUES CIRCULAR NOTES of £10 each, payable at every important place in Europe. These notes are issued without charge, and they are cashed abroad free of commission. The Bank also ISSUES, free of charge, LETTERS OF CREDIT on all the principal cities and towns in Europe, and upon New York and Chicago, United States; Cape Town, Graham's Town, and Port Elizabeth, Cape Colony. LETTERS OF CREDIT and BILLS OF EXCHANGE are likewise granted upon Melbourne, Geelong, Belfast, Ballarat, Castlemaine, Sandhurst, and Hobart Town, Australia, AT PAR. The Circular Notes may be obtained at the Bank, or any of its branches. The Letters of Credit and Bills of Exchange are issued only at the head office in Lombard-street.

NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK OF ENGLAND.—The Directors of the National Provincial Bank of England hereby give notice, that a HALF-YEARLY DIVIDEND, at the rate of EIGHT PER CENT. per annum, and also a BONUS OF SIX PER CENT., will be PAYABLE on the company's stock, on and after the 12th July next, when the dividend and bonus warrants will be obtained at the company's offices, 112, Bishopsgate-street, or at the different branches. The Transfer-books will be closed on and after Saturday, the 23d inst., until the dividend and bonus become payable. By order of the Court of Directors, DAN. ROBERTSON, Agent and Manager.

CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA.—Notice is hereby given, that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the shareholders of this company will be HELD at the Bank's Offices, South Sea House, Threadneedle-street, London, on Friday, the 29th day of June inst., at One o'clock P.M. precisely, to receive a report from the directors on the affairs of the company. By order of the Court, J. C. STEWART, Sec.

LONDON DOCKS.—The Court of Directors of the London Dock Company hereby give notice that a YEARLY GENERAL MEETING of the proprietors will be HELD at this house on Tuesday, the 3d day of July next, for the purpose of declaring a dividend on the company's stock for the half-year ending the 30th June inst. Also, for the election by ballot of 24 directors for the year ensuing, and on other affairs. The chair will be taken at One o'clock precisely; the ballot to commence immediately after the meeting, and close at Three o'clock precisely. J. D. POWLES, Sec. London Dock-house, New Bank-buildings, June 8, 1855.

EUROPEAN GAS COMPANY.—Notice is hereby given, that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the proprietors will be HELD on Thursday, the 8th day of July next, at the hour of Two o'clock precisely, at the offices of the company, 3, Moorgate-street, pursuant to the provisions of the Deed of Settlement. Two directors (Joseph Brown and William White, Esq.), and one auditor (John Moxon, Esq.), retire by rotation, but being eligible, will be proposed for re-election. The accounts to be submitted to the proprietors will be open for inspection during 10 days preceding the meeting. By order of the Board, H. Mc L. BACKLER, Sec.

TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF THE BLAENAVON IRON AND COAL COMPANY.—"DIVIDEND."—believing there exists a large majority of shareholders willing to extricate this company from its perilous position without the disastrous consequences of winding-up, will be glad to RECEIVE such NAMES AND ADDRESSES, sent to Messrs. Banks, 83, Fleet-street, London, preparatory to a general meeting of shareholders.

RYMNEY IRON COMPANY.—The HALF-YEARLY GENERAL MEETING of the proprietors of this company will be HELD at the company's offices, 25, Laurence Pountney-lane, on Wednesday, the 27th inst., at One o'clock precisely. By order of the Board, T. E. SCUDAMORE, Sec.

GLAMORGANSHIRE COAL AND COKE COMPANY.—Notice is hereby given, that a SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the shareholders in this company will TAKE PLACE at the offices, 66, Chancery-lane, London, on Tuesday, the 26th June, at Three o'clock P.M. precisely, for the purpose of making a call, and receiving the Report of the Committee of Management on the present position and future prospects of the company, and for instructing the committee as to future proceedings. By order of the Committee of Management, W. E. NEWTON, Sec.

GREAT WHEAL VOR UNITED MINES.—Notice is hereby given, that the HALF-YEARLY GENERAL MEETING of adventurers in the above mines will be HELD at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, on Wednesday, the 20th inst., at Two o'clock precisely. R. T. ALISON, Sec.

RED DRAGON SILVER-LEAD MINE.—Notice is hereby given, that the ADJOURNED MEETING, postponed to the 18th of June, will be definitely HELD on Friday, the 22d inst., at the London Tavern. The chair will be taken at Twelve o'clock precisely. The committee particularly request the early attendance of adventurers. By order, E. STEPHENSON, Chairman.

SOUTH CORK MINING COMPANY.—A GENERAL MEETING of the shareholders will be HELD at the offices of the company, 3, Nag's Head-court, Gracechurch-street, on Saturday, the 23d June, at Two o'clock precisely, to take into consideration the propriety of winding-up the company, or of raising additional capital by the sale of reserved shares. By order of the Board,

TRELEIGH CONSOLIDATED MINING COMPANY.—NEW SHARES.—The directors hereby give notice, that, in order to render the above shares negotiable, the CALL FIVE SHILLINGS per share, made 26th April last, MUST be PAID and endorsed thereon. By order of the Directors, WM. NICHOLSON, Sec.

ST. JOHN DEL REY MINING COMPANY.—Notice is hereby given, that the TWENTY-SIXTH HALF-YEARLY DIVIDEND, being TWO POUNDS per share, free of income-tax, on the shares of this company, will be PAYABLE at this office, on Friday, the 15th day of June, and every succeeding day, Saturdays excepted, between the hours of Ten and Four. Forms for claiming the dividend may be obtained at the company's office, and must be left, with the coupon, three clear days for examination previous to payment. 8, Tokenhouse-yard, Lombard-street, June 8, 1855. JOHN HOCKIN, Sec.

MEXICAN AND SOUTH AMERICAN COMPANY.—The TWENTIETH DIVIDEND, of SEVEN SHILLINGS AND SIXPENCE per share on the shares of this company, free of income tax, will be PAID on or after the 20th July, between the hours of Eleven and Three. Forms for claiming the dividend may be obtained by the shareholders, on application at the office. 17, Gracechurch-street, June 13, 1855. HYDE CLARKE, Sec.

WALLER GOLD MINING COMPANY.—Notice is hereby given, that a SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the shareholders of the above company will be HELD at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, on Monday, the 2d day of July next, at Two o'clock in the afternoon precisely, when an account of the expenditure since the last general meeting will be presented, and a resolution proposed by the directors, that a dividend of £5 per cent. upon the capital of the company be declared out of the net earnings of the mines. By order, W. GOWING, Sec.

DALECARLIA SILVER-LEAD MINING AND SMELTING COMPANY.—Notice is hereby given, that a SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the shareholders will be HELD at the company's offices, 25, Cannon-street, City, on Wednesday, the 27th inst., at One o'clock precisely, for the purpose of receiving a report from the committee, and to take into consideration the propriety of making a call, of dissolving the company, and of adopting the necessary measures consequent thereon. By order of the Committee of Management, WM. C. DEELEY, Sec.

OVERHOF MINING COMPANY.—Notice is hereby given, that a GENERAL MEETING of the shareholders in this company will be HELD at the George and Vulture Tavern, St. Michael's-alley, Cornhill, on Tuesday, the 26th inst., at Twelve o'clock precisely. JOHN BLOWNE, General.

PORT ROYAL AND ST. ANDREW'S COPPER MINING COMPANY OF JAMAICA.—Notice is hereby given, that all persons holding SCRIP in this company, who have not already LEFT the same at the office of the company for REGISTRATION, are hereby REQUESTED so to do, and to EXECUTE the DEED OF SETTLEMENT, within twenty-one days from the date hereof, upon pain of forfeiture. By order of the Directors, JOHN H. KOCH, Sec.

NORTH BRITISH AUSTRALASIAN COMPANY.—Notice is hereby given, that the TRANSFER-BOOKS of this company will be CLOSED from the 15th till the 28th inst., for the purpose of preparing the warrants for the dividend payable on the latter day. By order of the Committee, DAVID BUDGE, Sec.

MOUNT CARBON MINING COMPANY.—Notice is hereby given, that a SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the shareholders will be HELD on Friday, the 22d June, at Two o'clock, at the offices of the company, 28, Queen-street, London, to communicate satisfactory information, recently received, and for the dispatch of general business. FRANCIS STOKES, Sec.

MOUNT CARBON DEBENTURE BONDS.—Notice is hereby given, that these BONDS are now READY FOR ISSUE. They will be issued at a price to pay 10 per cent. per annum, are secured by a first mortgage on 8500 acres of freehold land (being all real land), and by a deposit of 10,000 shares of the company's stock. The bonds will be redeemable in April, 1860, the holder having the option of converting them into stock at par any time previous to redemption. The interest will be payable semi-annually, at the office in London. In the appropriation of these bonds shareholders will have the preference. Application to be made at the office, 28, Queen-street, Cannon-street. FRANCIS STOKES, Sec.

PROTECTION OF IRON FROM OXIDATION.—M. Paris has discovered a vitreous enamel, which will stand the test of any chemical or physical action to which it may be subjected. Some experiments fully prove that the adherence is perfect, and that the enamel resists the most violent shocks without cracking, although the iron it covers may be completely bent; it does not peel off or take fire by the action of heat; and concentrated acids can be kept at the boiling point for a considerable period in vessels protected by it. These qualities will enable the use of iron where glass, silver, gold, or platinum has only heretofore been employed. It is also applied to the protection of iron pipes, and to the lining of water and gas pipes, covering roofs, and sheathing ships, &c.

NEWCASTLE AND CARLISLE RAILWAY.—TENDERS
WANTED.—The Directors hereby give notice, that they are ready to receive TENDERS for the SUPPLY of the following ARTICLES, during six months ending 31st December, 1855, to be delivered in such quantities as may be required, free of expense, at the Company's Store House, Newcastle Station:—
Timber (of various kinds), Oak Keys and Pins, Malacca Iron, Nails, Cast Iron Wheels, Railway Chairs, Metal Castings, Tubes for Engines, Brass Castings, Brass, Copper, Steel, Tin, Tallow, Grease, Candles, Oil, Turpentine, Oil Cloth Covers, Rope, Hemp, Spain Yarn, Oakum, Cotton waste, and other articles, as specified in the printed form of tender, which may be had on application at the offices of the company, Central Station, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; and which, when properly filled up and addressed under cover to the directors, will be received at the said offices on or before Thursday, the 28th of June.
N.B. No written tender will be noticed.
Payments will be made for the quantity delivered during each three months by a bill at three months, or in cash, deducting discount, at the option of the directors.
By order, JOHN ADAMSON, Clerk to the Company.
Central Station, June 11, 1855.

NEWCASTLE AND CARLISLE RAILWAY.—TENDERS
FOR COAL.—The Directors are prepared to receive TENDERS for the SUPPLY of the whole, or a proportion of the quantity they may require, during the six months ending 31st December, 1855:—
Of the BEST SMALL COAL, for cooking purposes.
Of the BEST SMALL COAL, for shops, &c.
Of the BEST UNSCREENED HOUSEHOLD COALS, for the use of the stations on the line.
At per chaldron of 55 cwt., all to be delivered on the line.
The tenders to be sent to the Central Station, sealed and addressed to the directors, on or before Thursday, the 28th of June.
Payments will be made for the quantities delivered during each three months by a bill at three months, or in cash, deducting discount, at the option of the directors.
The directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest tender.
Newcastle-upon-Tyne, June 11, 1855. By order, JOHN ADAMSON, Sec.

GEELONG AND MELBOURNE RAILWAY COMPANY.
Incorporated by an Act of the Victoria Legislature, 8th February, 1853.
Capital £350,000, in 17,500 shares of £20 each.
Bearing a minimum interest of 5 per cent. per annum.
Guaranteed by the Colonial Government for 21 years, and payable half-yearly, viz., on 20th April and 20th October, in the colony and in London.
DIRECTORS.
CHARLES NUTTALL THORNE, Esq., J.P., President.
JAMES BUCHANAN HUTTON, Esq., Vice-President.
GEORGE BOARD, Esq.
W. G. McKELLAR, Esq., J.P.
Appointed by: CHARLES EDWARD STRUTT, Esq., J.P., Immigration Agent.
JOHN GUTHRIE, Esq., J.P., Collector of Customs.
Solicitors—J. A. Gregory, Esq.
ENGINEER AND ARCHITECT—Edward Snell, Esq.
SECRETARY—Martin Sholl, Esq.
BANKERS—Bank of New South Wales; Bank of Victoria.
LONDON OFFICE.
MANAGER—S. J. Cooke, Esq., 36, Cannon-st., late Treasurer to the Colonial Government, and Director of the Company.
AGENTS—Messrs. Larnach and Walker, 37, Cannon-street.
EXAMINING ENGINEERS—Daniel Gooch, Esq., C.E., Great Western Railway; Henry St. John, Esq., Bristol.
SOLICITORS—Messrs. Gooch and Co., 3, Lancaster-place, Strand.
BANKERS—London Joint-Stock Bank; Bank of New South Wales.
Uniform Colonial gauge of 5 ft. 6 in., as fixed by Legislative Enactment.
His Excellency Sir Charles Hotham, Governor of Victoria, with the advice and consent of his Executive Council, having guaranteed a minimum interest of 5 per cent. per annum out of the funds of the colony, upon the entire capital stock of this company, viz., £350,000—the directors have placed a limited number of shares for allotment, fully paid up, through their London agency, the interest being computed from the date of payment.
Interest warrants will be ready for issue at the company's London office (now permanently established) to the shareholders on April 20th and October 20th of each year. The fourth half-year's interest was paid on the 20th April last.
The Colonial Government, deeply impressed with the importance of this undertaking, has conceded great privileges to this company. Large and valuable grants of land for the line and stations have been made, including 13 acres in the centre of the town of Geelong, for the terminus, with harbour frontages for the piers and wharves, the total value of which is not short of £120,000, being equal to one-third of the capital stock of the company, added by way of bonus to the shareholders.
The level nature of the country through which the line passes, whilst offering no engineering difficulties, and involving no expensive works whatever, is highly fertile, and already occupied by a thriving and increasing agricultural and manufacturing population.
By advice, dated 9th March last, information has been received of the favourable progress of the works, accelerated much by a reduction in the labour market. The completion of the pier and harbour branch has given considerable satisfaction to colonial shareholders, both from the facilities it affords to commercial operations in the town and district, and the encouraging prospect of revenue which it opens to the company.
Large supplies of rails and materials have been already landed in the colony, and the first shipments of locomotives and carriages have just been made by the *Adelphi* from London, and the *Donald MacKay* from Liverpool. Contracts have been concluded for all the plant and rolling stock required for the efficient working of the line (which is expected partially to be open during the present year), and the whole of which is to be delivered within the next six months.
The first series of shares reserved for this market have been issued, and the sealed certificates delivered to the allottees.
Applications are invited for the unallotted portion of the guaranteed stock, which will not be received at less than par—£20 shares, interest taking effect from the date of payment, and so endorsed upon the share certificates. S. J. COOKE, Manager.
Geelong and Melbourne Railway Company's Office, 36, Cannon-street, City, June 6, 1855.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.
To Messrs. Larnach and Walker, 37, Cannon-street, London.
GENTLEMEN,—I request that you will allot to me guaranteed shares of £20 each in the Geelong and Melbourne Railway Company, at _____; and I hereby undertake to accept them, or a less number, and to pay for the same on receipt of the allotment letter, receiving in exchange the share certificates bearing the common seal of the company.
Name _____
Address _____
Profession or business _____
Usual signature _____
Date _____

AIR VERSUS STEAM.—GOODLET'S LARGE AND SMALL COMPRESSING AND EXHAUSTING DOUBLE-ACTING AIR-ENGINES.
2 inch crank and fly-wheel without working valves, on the principle of the spring air-gun, with vacuum valves to prevent recoil. Mr. Goodlet has proved by experiment that a man can perform eighty revolutions with a fly-wheel, burdened by two double-acting air-engines, the one of 2 ft. and the other 1 ft. diameter.
The man is assisted by the air acting on the buckets of fly-wheel and on the pistons at the compressing and exhausting strokes. To give an idea of the power of Mr. Goodlet's engine, with a 1 1/2-inch piston, fixed to his large air engine, and the report was like a gun, making 100 reports in a minute.
Goodlet's patented vacuum valves applied to steam-engines, especially to railway locomotives, will be found of great value, and will reduce the quantity of steam to at least one-half, if used in combination with air, and will prevent a vacuum in the cylinder, so detrimental to the power of the engine. There is a want of knowledge as to the difference in effect on an engine from an exit throttle and lap in valve; the former operates as a necessary drag to preserve the pressure of steam in boiler, the latter operates as a self-acting drag, which diminishes as the difficulty in ascending increases, while the lap continues hurtful to the progressive motion of the engine in every case, rendering necessary the use of steam of very high pressure to counteract the compression from the lap. While Mr. Goodlet considers the discovery of the perpetual motion by purely mechanical means as impracticable, and unaccompanied with surplus power the invention would be useless, he feels satisfied that by his patented atmospheric vacuum valves, and doing away with the lost effect from the lap on valve, a self-acting and power-supplying machine can be constructed for the propulsion of a vessel by means of compressed air acting on the water, producing a motion in an opposite direction to the discharge. It will be obvious to practical engineers that in this way the power of the atmospheric pressure is made to assist the power and speed of the vessel.
On the exhaust stroke of the air-engine the pressure of the atmosphere on the sea compresses the air, and thus assists the pistons, and renders more effective the power from the impetus of the vessel, or of the men, when a fly-wheel is necessary to overcome the resistance caused by contrary winds.
The soundness of the principle of Mr. Goodlet's valuable discovery being unquestioned, he is desirous of forming a connection to assist him to apply it to a sailing vessel and locomotive for the common road.—Apply to the patentee, GEORGE GOODLET, Postmaster, Leith, June 14, 1855.

HALEY'S PATENT CRUSHER AND AMALGAMATOR.
This machine is NOW IN OPERATION at ESSEX WHARF, ESSEX STREET, STRAND, GOLD ORES carefully TESTED on the following terms, including the use and distillation of mercury:—
Samples not exceeding 5 cwt. £1 10 0
" " 10 " 2 0 0
" " 1 ton. 2 13 0
" " 2 tons. 3 13 0
" " 3 tons. 4 10 0
" " 4 tons. 5 0 0
Larger quantities by special agreement. Price of the machine complete, £200.

TO MINING COMPANIES, MINERS, &c.—QUARTZ, TIN, COPPER, AND OTHER ORES reduced to a FINE POWDER at a SMALL COST. Foreign miners and others with limited power will find in this machinery everything they require. Parties wishing to prove it may have samples reduced any day at J. WALKER'S, patentee, 17, Cowper-street, City-road, London.
HAS FRASER, double action, new and powerful, largely patronized by Government.

MINING.—PATENT PUMPING AND WINDING STEAM-ENGINES, MADE PORTABLE, AND MOUNTED ON BROAD WAGON WHEELS, TO BE LET ON HIRE, OR FOR SALE.—All interested in mining are invited to INSPECT MEDWIN AND HALL'S PATENT PORTABLE STEAM-ENGINES. (See the Reports of this Journal.)
Several of these engines are in stock, and ready for immediate delivery, of 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 20, 25, and 30-horse power, adapted for mining and other purposes. They possess advantages of strength and simplicity over all other portable engines; and may be seen at Messrs. MEDWIN, HALL, and Co's, sole patenters and manufacturers, 92, Blackfriars-road, London.

VIOLETS.—BREIDENBACH, DISTILLER OF FLOWERS, has in great perfection several EXTRAITS of the WOOD VIOLET. The perfume is very lasting, and will stain the handkerchief. Violet pomade, violet cold cream, violet oil, violet scented powder, all equally fragrant.—137, New Bond-street, London.—Sold by all fashionable perfumers.

RAILWAY WAGONS.—WM. A. ADAMS, MIDLAND WORKS, BIRMINGHAM.
BROAD AND NARROW GAUGE COAL AND IRONSTONE WAGONS, IN STOCK—FOR SALE OR HIRE.

RAILWAY WHEEL AND AXLE WORKS.—GEORGE WORSDELL AND CO., WARRINGTON, MANUFACTURERS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION OF HAMMERED IRON, TYRES, AXLES, &c.

INGLIS AND CHISHOLM, MANCHESTER, MAKE SMALL STEAM-ENGINES FOR MINERS, CONTRACTORS, &c.; also, DRILLING, PUNCHING, AND SHEARING MACHINES, AND OTHER TOOLS, of the best quality, at a reasonable price.—Address, INGLES and CHISHOLM, Charles-street, Garsfield, Manchester.

EDWARD RUSSELL, ALMA TUBE WORKS, WALSHALL, MANUFACTURER OF WROUGHT IRON TUBING FOR GAS, STEAM, AND WATER; STOCKS, TAPS, AND DIES; AND ALL KINDS OF GAS FITTINGS.

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